Entertainment / A2-1

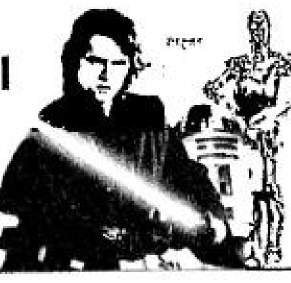
Jasmine Trias bets on Bo to win AI

■ World / A10

Stem cell breakthrough ignites storm

■ Lifestyle / C1

Why the Force will always be with us



■ Sports / A25

Chot Reyes bares RP team lineup for Champion's Cup

■ Metro / A23

Jail can also be a place of hope

Int'l conservationists think GMA is 'cool'

By Jerry E. Esplanada

TAGAYTAY CITY—She may not be the most popular person in government, but for some visiting international lake conservationists President Macapagal-Arroyo is such a darling.

A number of delegates to the just-conclud-

INT'L/ A21

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

New ring blockbuster: It's Taxman vs Pacman

By Armand N. Nocum

IN A BID to show that its campaign to hunt down tax dodgers packs a wallop, the Bureau of Internal Revenue seems to be angling for a bigger fight—

NEW/ A22

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Sunday, May 22, 2005 ★★ 112 pages / 15 sections / Vol. 19 / No. 163 P18

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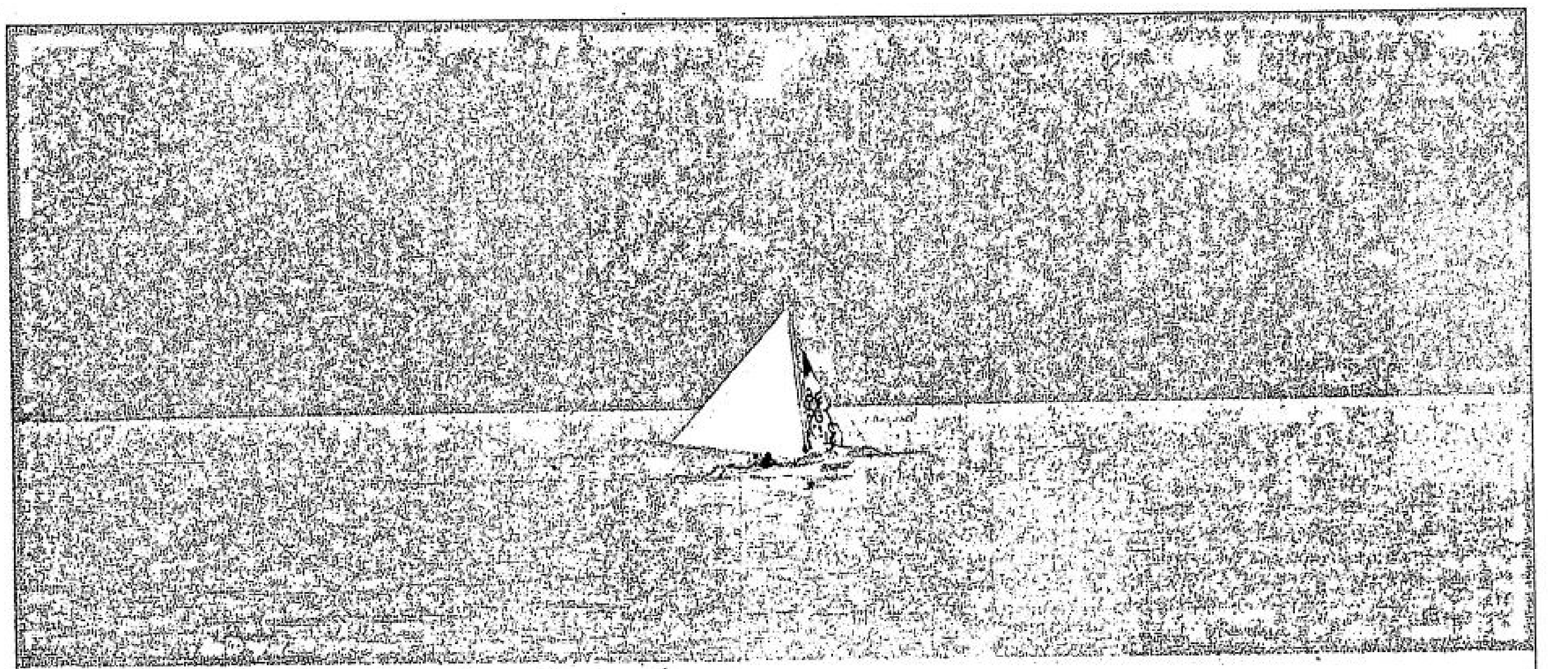
All-out war vs 'jueteng'

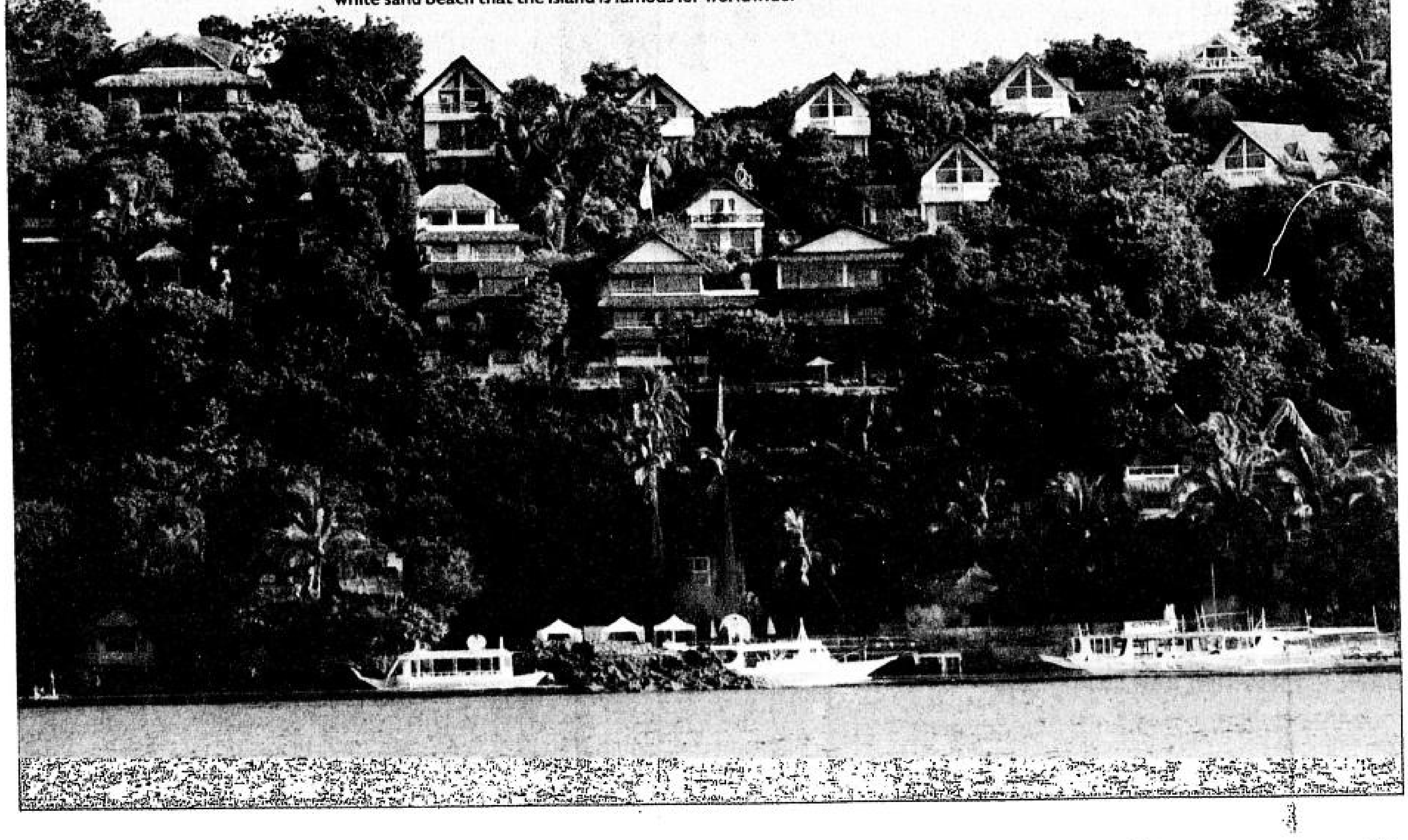
Spare no one, GMA orders in new drive on illegal gambling



PARADOX IN PARADISE

Private resorts that decorate the hillsides of its more affluent side also highlight the problems that Boracay island is grappling with—land ownership, overdevelopment, overpopulation and garbage disposal. But out at sea (top photo), there is no concealing the beauty and serenity that this lone sailboat enjoys just a few meters off the powdery white sand beach that the island is famous for worldwide.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO



By Gil Cabacungan Jr. and Philip C. Tubeza

AFTER weeks of silence on the burning issue of "jueteng," President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday declared that she would spare no one in her all-out war on illegal numbers games.

She called for stricter enforcement of the antigambling law, Republic Act No. 9287, to stamp out all such games of chance, specifically jueteng, "masiao" and "last two digits," which are popular among the poor.

"Let us work together in addressing the problem of illegal gambling while enforcing the law, rather than engaging in mudslinging and character assassination," the President said in a speech at the Visayas Business Conference in Eastern Samar.

"I strongly urge the filing of charges against anyone involved in payola, and no one will be spared even as I urge all investigations into the matter not to be centered on hearsay," she said.

Spelling out her action plan, the President ordered law enforcement units to carry out RA 9287.

The law enacted 13 months ago increases the penalty (fines of up to P5 million and jail time of up to 20 years) on all persons involved in illegal numbers games, from bettors to operators to protectors, including public officials and law enforcers.

The President also wants the Department of Justice and the Department of Interior and Local Government "to increase public awareness of this existing law among their respective constituencies."

Aside from cracking down on gambling aficionados and coddlers, Ms Arroyo also wants to address the "culture of gambling, especially among poor Filipinos."

"Our goal is to come up with policies that would encourage our people to

ALL-OUT/ A8

DOJ puts squeeze on 3 'witnesses'

By Armand N. Nocum and Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE LEGAL squeeze on the "jueteng" whistle-blowers has started even before they could formally testify at the planned Senate inquiry into the operations of the illegal numbers game.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez yesterday told the INQUIRER that the whistle-blowers could be criminally charged for linking members of the First Family to jueteng. He said the Department of Justice had identified some of them and was set to charge them with illegal gambling and libel.

Gonzalez, whom President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered to coordinate with the Office of the Ombudsman in looking into the allegations made to the INQUIRER by a supposed jueteng operator and two bagmen (code-named O1, B1 and B2), said their "extra-judicial admission" constituted evidence "admissible in court" against them.

"With the very admission of these supposed gambling lords, now in the possession of [Sen. Panfilo] Lacson, they can already be charged" in court, Gonzalez said in a phone interview.

"Criminally, there is now an admission, so why wait?" he said, adding:

"Why are these things not being filed as formal charges? I hope the good senator (Lacson) can file [the information] so we can proceed."

DOJ/ A8

AIDS victim tells of healing virtues of coco oil

By Cesar C. Villariba
Contributor

IN COMING out to tell a story that has to be told, Tom, 28, lends a face of hope to the 2,250 AIDS sufferers in the Philippines, who have been drawn into the global fight against the dreaded disease.

Beneath the sunglasses he wears are eyes moist not with self-pity but in triumph.

An all-covered getup, in the summer heat, hides a body scarred by a disease Tom contracted as a victim of gang rape while he was working in the Middle East.

Coming home in 2002, Tom was devastated to learn that hospitals and drugs could not help alleviate at least his pains, if not deliver him from the virus slowly gnawing at his cells and taking his life away.

His was the kind of pain that came not so much from the infections ravaging his body but from the shame the disease had brought him.

Given up for dying, Tom knew he had to look elsewhere—beyond drugs—to win his battle.

Nine months later, Tom appeared before a health symposium, for all to witness his remarkable recovery.

What used to be skin sores all over his body were now just scars.

And his life energy had been restored enough to become an eloquent testimony to how something so natural as virgin coconut oil had halted his free fall.

"You don't know how hard it is for one to have an illness that others find repulsive ... I had wanted to shut myself inside my room and just wait for my time to die," Tom told symposium participants.

Tom's journey to healing began when he sought out the Department of Health.

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit referred his case to the author of the first clinical study on the healing effects of coconut oil on the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)—his father, Dr. Conrado Dayrit.

Since September 2004, the young AIDS patient has been on a high dose of virgin coconut oil, which he applies on his skin twice a day, short of "bathing in it."

He also takes six tablespoonfuls daily without fail.

Tom said it helped that Secretary Dayrit was able to secure for him a steady supply of the healing oil from virgin coconut oil producers—for free.

Each time Tom went to have his periodic hospital tests, his viral load decreased progressively. Tom said that when he told hospital doctors what he was taking, they could not believe that an inexpensive natural food oil was killing the viruses better than all the expensive drugs science could churn out.

Naturopath Dr. Bruce Fife, author of Coconut Oil Miracles and Coconut Cures, concurs with Conrado Dayrit in saying that if virgin coconut oil can hold its own against deadly viruses, it can effectively protect one against lesser diseases.

Tom's case could be an eye-opener for scientists and prompt them into taking a closer look at coconut's other medical possibilities.

Presentations on the curative power of the coconut have spurred participants in the symposium—local coconut research luminaries, industry leaders and government officials—to work on helping not only the coconut industry but also people stricken by illness to get their health back again.

AIDS/ A21

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening.

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/05/21/05 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

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UN: RP lacks will to fight poverty

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE UNITED Nations has chided the Philippine government for its lack of political will to fight poverty, noting that there were at least 20 million Filipinos who were living in poverty.

UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) campaign director Salil Shetty said the lack of political will, lack of resources and a growing gap between the rich and the poor were hampering government efforts to reduce poverty and provide basic needs to its citizens.

"Unless citizens, people of the Philippines and of different countries actually push their governments and leaders to focus on poverty, things are not going to change," Shetty said.

Shetty also expressed doubts over the accuracy of government reports on income levels and poverty incidence in the country.

While the government has come out with positive reports on the income levels in the country, Shetty said he expected those reports to be challenged.

"I genuinely feel all sorts of numbers are produced but, you know, if you ask poor people, they will tell you the reality. If they cannot get access to quality education, to health services, it affects their whole existence. There are numbers at the macro-level but poverty actually affects individuals and families at the local level," he said.

The Global Call to Action Against Poverty-Philippines, a local civil society group monitoring the government's action on the MDGs, has challenged the government's claim that the poverty incidence had dropped from 27.1 percent in 2001 to 24.7 percent today.

It cautioned government officials against effecting "poverty reduction through statistics."

The Asian Development Bank, for one, believed that poverty actually worsened from year 2000 to 2003, the group said.

Compared to other Southeast Asian countries, the Philippines is lagging behind due to its high poverty incidence, financial problems and lack of other resources., Shetty said.

"I think generally speaking, (Southeast Asia is) one of the parts of the world that is doing better because, you know, many of the countries in this part of the world are economically doing quite well. But we can't say the same about the Philippines because, you know, there are at least 20 million people here who are living in poverty, in a situation which needs urgent redress," Shetty said.

In September 2000, 189 countries, including the Philippines, signed the UN Millennium Declaration to reduce poverty and provide basic needs, like potable water and education, by 2015.

"These are very minimal targets to be achieved by 2015. As things stand, many countries are not likely to achieve them, and we certainly feel that the main constraint right now is there is not enough political will for the achievement of these goals," Shetty told a media forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City.

Shetty also noted the growing disparity in wealth between the metropolis and the far-flung regions of the country and between the rich and the poor.

Aside from the growing disparity in wealth among the social classes, the Philippines is also hobbled by a lack of financial resources, Shetty said.

"The current microeconomic situation is a matter of concern as to whether there will be enough resources to invest in achieving these goals and these basic anti-poverty programs. There is such a big financial crunch, unless we put up significant resources, we are not likely to achieve these goals," he said.

Under the MDG, eight major goals and 15 targets were set to reverse the spread of poverty and deprivation. The government, however, admitted in its initial assessment report that it might meet only five of the eight major goals.

It said there was a "high probability" for meeting goals and targets set in reducing poverty incidence; attaining safe water coverage; participation rates and gender goals in education; cutting child and infant mortality rates; in reducing the incidence of HIV AIDS and other diseases, and ensuring wider shelter coverage for slum dwellers.

The government said it saw "medium probability for meeting targets in reducing hunger and nutrition, in improving cohort survival rates in school, and reducing maternal mortality. It is expected to come out with a progress report next month.

Shetty also dismissed the common belief that overpopulation was the main cause of poverty, saying it was a result of it.

Shetty also said that relying primarily on the use of contraceptives would not reduce a country's population.

"We have to distinguish between what is a cause and what are the consequences.

Globally, we have enough evidence to show that overpopulation is not a cause of poverty; it's a consequence of it," Shetty said.

GMA: Country is no Argentina

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday assured the public that the Philippines was nowhere near the debt crisis suffered by Argentina in 2001.

"Even if we have a very big total foreign debt, we are far from Argentina because less than 15 percent of that is payable in the next five years," she said in a speech before the Visayas Business Conference in Eastern Samar.

The average maturity of the country's foreign debt papers is 17 years."

The President said her administration had moved to "lengthen the period of payment of our foreign debts" and this had eased the pressure on the government to find more revenues to pay its obligations.

"It is just that we spend so much money on interest that is why we needed these revenues," said the President. "I believe in creating strong, macro-economic fundamentals that will ensure the stability of the nation's economy. We need to honor our obligations."

Ms Arroyo was apparenty trying to downplay a warning issued last week by Tom Byrne of Moody's Investor Services who said the Philippines' finances were in worse shape than Argentina's in 2001.

Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima had disputed Byrne's claims by noting that the Philippines had chalked up escalating economic growth rates in the last three years compared to Argentina which experienced negative growth for three consecutive years before it defaulted on debt payments in 2001.

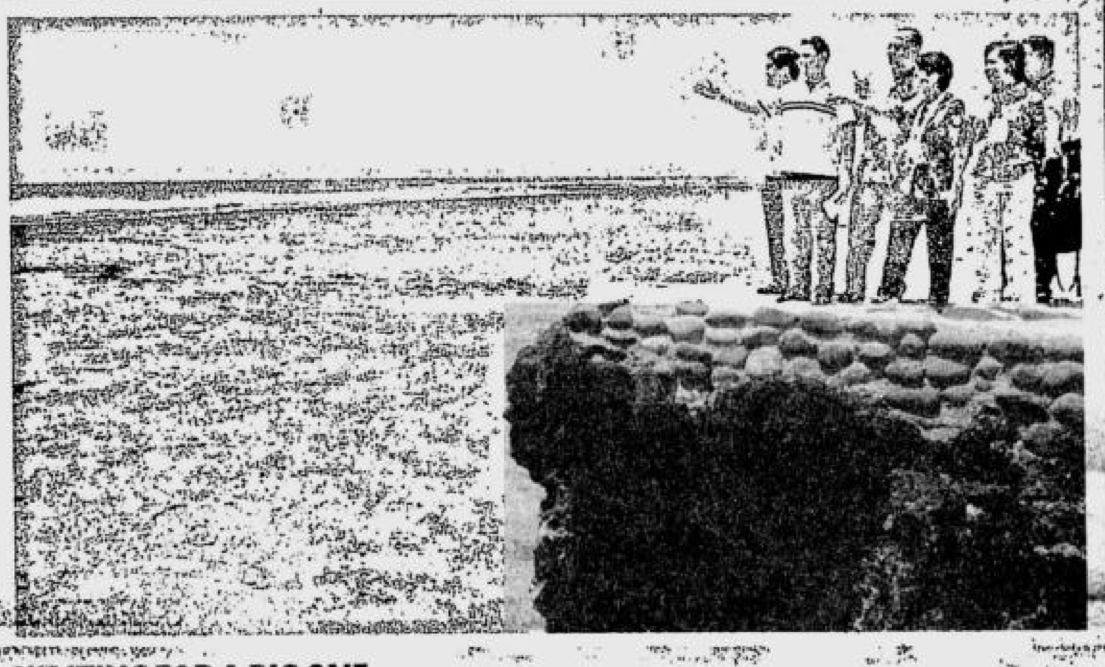
In her speech, President Arroyo also said she was keen on changing what she called the two faces of the Philippines.

While calling attention to the "continued growth of the economy," the President admitted that the wealth had not trickled down to the poor."

"For too long there have been two Philippines – the one that represents what is positive about our nation and the one that doesn't. The one that rewards hard work and entrepreneurial spirit, and the one that doesn't allow for social mobility or economic opportunity. The one where justice is a reality and one where justice is a dream," the President said.

She said a second phase of reforms would be "defined by bringing the benefits of tough economic reforms to the people."

"With more revenues, we can invest more in the vital social needs to lift our poorest citizens out of poverty. I will invest in a pro-poor agenda," the President said.



WAITING FOR A BIG ONE

President Macapagal-Arroyo (third from right) watches the surf roll in in Guiuan, Eastern Samar, during her visit there yesterday to boost tourism. She declared the area one of the surfing capitals of the country. With her were Tourism Secretary Joseph Durano, Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, Rep. Marcelino Libanan and Guiuan Mayor Analiza Kwan.

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Electric coops protest 'triple whammy' VAT

BAGUIO CITY—The country's 119 power utility cooperatives are protesting the impending imposition of the value-added tax (VAT) on the power sector beginning January 2006.

The party-list group Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives (Apec) on Friday urged households to voluntarily shut off their electric appliances on June 12, Independence Day, to compel President Macapagal-Arroyo to veto the VAT measure recently approved by the bicameral conference committee.

A VAT on power means a "triple tax whammy" on consumers, said Apec Rep. Edgar Valdez, vice chair of the House committee on energy.

The bill awaiting Ms Arroyo's signature would impose a 10-percent tax on power produced by a generation firm, another tax on power transmitted through national power lines, and a final tax on the power that reaches households.

The average household serviced by power cooperatives "pays between P4 and P8.59 for every kilowatt hour" it consumes. A 10-12 percent VAT on the cooperatives would raise power rates to as high as P9.45 per kWh as consumption grows, according to Apec.

Apec said government's electricity consumption can best illustrate the impact of VAT on power.

"The House of Representatives pays an average monthly electricity bill amounting to around P3.5 million. The House would have to pay an additional P350,000 if power would be subjected to VAT," an Apec policy paper said.

The paper also stressed that the VAT would wreak havoc on the budgets of local government units because several towns still owe 52 electric cooperatives P355.6 million in unpaid power bills.

It also said that the Armed Forces of the Philippines owes 55 cooperatives P38.93 million, while the Philippine National Police owes 50 cooperatives P16.3 million.

Valdez disputed the value of lifeline rates, a subsidy for residential power consumers as provided for under the 2001 Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira).

Ms Arroyo had advised consumers to rely on the lifeline rates to cope with the latest increases in electricity rates.

Apec Rep. Ernesto Pablo, the party-list chair, said lifeline rates were "illusory" because these are financed by those with higher electricity consumption, and not by the government. He said these cross-subsidies would still be hit by the VAT.

Luis Manuel Corral, Apec secretary general, said Malacañang had been pressuring Congress to impose a power industry tax, although Ms Arroyo managed to avoid discussing the issue.

"The President was advised against going public with the proposal because the government was not sure how the public would accept the power hikes, but the departments of finance and energy made sure [the power VAT] was included," he told the INQUIRER. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Indons go it alone in rescue

JOLO, Sulu—Indonesian officials are not working with the Philippine military in the hunt for three Indonesian seamen kidnapped by suspected al-Qaida-linked militants, a top Philippine army officer said Saturday.

"We have not received any reports from the Indonesian consulate... They are not coordinating with us, but this does not stop us from our operation to safely recover the hostages," said Lt. Gen. Alberto Braganza.

The three Indonesians—Ahmad Resmiyadi, Yamin Labaso and Erikson Hutagaol—were seized in March after their boat was attacked off Malaysia's Sabah region by a group calling itself the Jamiat al-Islamiah of Southern Mindanao.

They were thought to be held somewhere in the southern Philippine province of Tawi-Tawi, and police and military officials now believe they were seized by the Abu Sayyaf kidnap gang.

"We are doing everything to trace their whereabouts. We have recovered one speedboat of the Abu Sayyaf and several weapons—that's the latest we have on the operation against the kidnappers," Braganza said.

Earlier this week, Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono asked President Macapagal-Arroyo for help in rescuing the three hostages, Foreign Minister Hassan Wirayuda said.

Wirayuda also said the captors had demanded a 7.5 billion rupiah ($790,000) ransom from the hostages' employer. *AFP*

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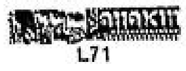
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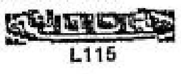
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Mayor not off hook in publisher's slay

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Mayor Jaime Ylarde of Dingalan, Aurora, remains a suspect in the killing of Aurora newspaper publisher Philip Agustin, a police official heading the investigation of the case said.

"The mayor is still a suspect. We're not striking off his name until we capture and get statements from the two primary suspects in the killing," said Senior Supt. Perfecto Palad, head of Task Force Agustin which was formed by the Philippine National Police and the National Bureau of Investigation.

Palad issued the clarification on Saturday after reports (not in the INQUIRER) said the authorities had removed Ylarde from the list of suspects.

Palad said that while there was no strong evidence linking the mayor to the murder, investigators were simply being conscientious since the three suspects—cousins Reynaldo and Nilo "Boyet" Morete and Anuel Alday (not Manuel as earlier reported)—were all municipal employees.

Reynaldo Morete, who reportedly admitted serving as the lookout during Agustin's killing, was arrested on May 14, the day the publisher was buried. His cousin and Alday were last seen in Mayantoc, Tarlac, where the police and Army soldiers started a manhunt on May 15.

Reynaldo, who was presented to reporters on May 16, said he was told by his cousin that Agustin had to be killed because of the negative stories he had been writing about the mayor in his newsweekly, the Starline Times Recorder.

Agustin was gunned down inside his daughter's house in Barangay Paltic in Dingalan just after 11 p.m. on May 10.

Earlier on the night he was killed, Agustin had delivered to Dingalan 500 copies of Starline's May 2-8 special edition detailing Ylarde's alleged misuse of funds intended for the relief, resettlement and rehabilitation of the flash flood and landslide victims in southern Aurora's coastal towns.

Aside from the stories, Agustin's last "Rap with Me" column demanded assistance for the families of the victims. The disaster left 135 dead, 54 missing and more than 1,000 families homeless.

Ylarde has denied any involvement in the killing. He said he was willing to attend the case's preliminary investigation set by the Department of Justice for May 27 to "answer questions and clear my name."

He went to the NBI office in Manila on May 18, he said, to prove that he was not hiding.

The latest witness, Roy Canaria, a neighbor of the Agustins, claimed that an adviser of Ylarde, one Buboy Bautista, had tried to bribe him with a job to keep his mouth shut and not implicate the mayor in the murder.

Canaria said he saw the three suspects heading to and then running from the house of Agustin's daughter after the publisher had been shot.

While only circumstantial evidence was available for now, these warrant the inclusion of Ylarde in the list of suspects, Palad said.

Rosebelle Cruz, Agustin's daughter, said she was "partly satisfied" with the way the police investigation was progressing.

"What I want is for the police to get the two gunmen and make them admit who was the mastermind in my father's killing," she said.

In another incident involving a media person, this time in Hagonoy, Bulacan, a radio reporter assailed the town police for mistaking him for a crime suspect during a police operation in Barangay Sto. Niño on Wednesday.

Rommel Ramos, 29, a reporter for Radio Veritas and a resident of the City of Malolos, said at least three policemen, who were responding to a call for help at Raymundo Subdivision in Hagonoy, pointed their guns at him and told him to get out of his car.

Ramos said he was in the area to return an umbrella to a friend.

He said the policemen only backed off when he showed them his identification card and introduced himself as a reporter.

Instead of apologizing, the policemen berated him, Ramos said.

He quoted one of the policemen as telling him: *"Pasalamat ka may kasama kang babae, kung puro kayo lalaki niratrat ko na kayo* (Be thankful you have a woman with you, if you were all men I would have riddled you all with bullets.)" *With Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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2010 too late for Davao Pacific Plans customers

By Germelina A. Lacorte
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—Planholders of Pacific Plans Inc. (PPI) here have rejected the company's offer to return their money by 2010, saying that they could not wait that long.

The planholders instead executed a special power of attorney to allow the nationwide Parents Enabling Parents (PEP) Coalition to file a case against the Yuchengco-owned preneed firm in their behalf.

"We want Pacific Plans to honor the policy," said Bong Valdoza, Davao chapter president of the coalition, after a meeting with 30 planholders here.

He said PPI's rehabilitation plan was disadvantageous to planholders because "we will have to wait years before we can get back the money."

But PPI spokesperson Jeanette C. Tecson said that rehabilitation was an option open to all companies in financial distress.

Tecson added that a rehabilitation plan must not in anyway be perceived as an attempt to evade obligations.

In fact, she said, stockholders of PPI have infused an additional P170 million into the pre-need company.

Joji Ilagan-Bian, former chair of the Mindanao Business Council (MBC), said the issue involving PPI was not only the concern of planholders.

"This is an issue which everybody should take up. A company cannot just sign a contract with us one day and then run away the next day," she said.

Valdoza said among the options being considered against PPI was a class action suit.

Bian said the company's rehabilitation plan was "very unjust and unfair" to its planholders, who had invested hard-earned money for their children's education for years.

The number of planholders joining the coalition is expected to swell in the coming days, as aggrieved planholders start to feel the impact of the company's failure to pay their children's tuition this school year.

Valdoza, whose son is a graduating student at the San Pedro College of Nursing here, said the company has only released P22,000 for his tuition for the coming semester, when it was supposed to pay P30,000.

"We've been looking for a brighter future for our children, but what do we get now? We bought the plan, with the assumption of trust," Bian said.

On the valuation of the selling price of PPI's stake in Lifetime Plans Inc. to GPL Holdings Inc., Tecson said, "as in any corporate acquisition, the buyer undertakes a review of the potential stream of revenues, after deducting noncollection from lapsed plans and the stream of expenses that are attached to the said revenues."

"In the case of Lifetime Plans, these expenses would include commissions and other marketing expenses for the agency force, insurance benefits of the planholders, plan servicing and administration expenses," she said.

Additional contributions to the trust fund would also have to be deducted from this potential stream of revenues, Tecson said.

PPI sold Lifetime at a net asset value of P205 million.

The sale covered assets, which were composed largely of trust funds, and liabilities for the fixed value education, pension and memorial plans.

Correction

ARCHITECT Amado de Jesus Jr.'s column titled "Green architecture and the efficient use of water" that came out in the Property Section on Saturday, May 21, in Section B2, Page 2, inadvertently appeared under the logo "Living Architecture." The column logo should have been "Green Architrends."

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses: glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent, pending the appointment of a new readers' advocate, to Isagani Yambot, publisher, the same address and fax numbers as those of the city editor, and e-mail address: iyambot@inquirer.com.ph.

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40 DAYS AFTER BORLONGAN SUICIDE

In Dolly's dream, Ted's eyes were smiling

By D. J. Yap

FORTY days after banker Teodoro "Ted" Borlongan committed suicide, the bottle of red wine he left behind for his wife remains untouched.

For Dolly Borlongan, finishing off the wine would mean having gotten over the pain of her husband's death. But the widow of the former Urban Bank president is not ready to let go.

"As the days pass, instead of being able to cope with it… I see his face and his sad eyes," said Dolly in an interview after the Mass marking the 40th day after Borlongan's death, at the Christ the King church in Greenmeadows, Quezon City.

Dolly found the bottle of red wine in their bedroom ref a few days after her husband shot himself in the head at the Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina City. "I believe it was his way of telling me 'I'm allowing you only one bottle for your depression,'" said Dolly.

The wine was a private joke between the couple, she said.

"Whenever I was angry with him, I would drink red wine—I don't really drink liquor—and then I would leave the bottle where he could see it," she said.

Wine untouched

Borlongan often made a joke of it, she said.

She has not touched the wine because she wants to keep her mind clear, Dolly said. "I have to be strong so I can take care of my children," she said.

Borlongan killed himself on April 11, over what many believe to have been depression over the closure of Urban Bank and the successive losses he suffered in court.

Massive withdrawals

In April 2000, Urban Bank was hit by massive withdrawals, forcing it to declare a bank holiday. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas ordered it closed the same month, sparking a number of lawsuits.

Borlongan protested the closure as "arbitrary" and took his case all the way to the Supreme Court. He also filed cases against several government agencies in an effort to clear his name. But all the cases were dismissed.

Pending hell

Dolly had said Borlongan's suicide was a "sacrifice" for the family, so they would be spared from "the further pending hell that was again to break loose as a result of losing his battle in the Supreme Court."

She and their four children—Kathy, Jon, Chris and Stephie—are trying to cope "the way Ted would have wanted us to cope."

Dolly said she still has her private moments with her husband. She often visits his grave at Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina, ironically where he had shot himself, and talks to him as if he were still alive.

Dolly said she even asks her husband to appear to her. "I'm not afraid of him. I want to see him again," she said.

One afternoon, she fell asleep and dreamed of Ted, she said.

'Very clear'

"It was very clear. I saw him and he was smiling at me. It seemed like he was falling toward me, like he used to do whenever he hugged and kissed me," she said.

Dolly said she could no longer remember the last time Ted looked happy when he was alive.

"We would go to the beach, and he would be laughing, but his eyes were sad," she said.

But in Dolly's dream, her husband's eyes were smiling.

BORLONGAN

Pasig River rehabilitation imperilled as squatters return

By Jerry Esplanada

THE REHABILATATION of the polluted and heavily silted Pasig River appears headed nowhere.

After the government partially cleared its riverbanks of squatters and transferred them to relocation sites, the same squatters have returned to their former riverbank communities in Metro Manila.

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission insiders said an undisclosed number of ex-Pasig River squatters had either sold or leased their homes in state-assigned relocation sites.

Many squatter returnees simply wanted to be near their means of livelihood, the insiders explained, adding that this was delaying a couple of riverbank development projects.

In its 2004 accomplishment report, the PRRC cited the "presence of informal settler returnees" as one of the problems confronting its riverbanks development program.

"Informal settlers reside along the banks of the Pasig River, its tributaries and esteros and discharge their liquid and solid waste into the waterway," the PRRC noted.

According to the Office of the President-attached body, squatter families were still residing in at least four areas that had been designated "priority parks"—the Quinta market park, Barangay San Agustin promenade and Maestranza, all in Manila, and the West Rembo promenade in Makati City.

The construction of both the 2,500-square-meter Quinta Market park and the 3,645-sqm Barangay San Agustin promenade had been suspended "due to the presence of informal settler returnees."

The PRRC also reported that at least 718 squatter families were still occupying the 8,863-sqm Maestranza project site.

The other riverbank areas undergoing development are: the Fort Santiago promenade; Muelle del Banco promenade; Muelle de la Industria promenade; Fort Santiago promenade; Muelle del Rio park and promenade; South Nagtahan park; Sta. Ana market park; Makati DES park; Barangay Valenzuela (former Mabini Shrine), and Barangay Pineda promenade and community park.

The government has spent at least P2.67 billion to relocate more than 5,200 squatter families under the Asian Development Bank-assisted Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program or Paremar.

The PRRC needs to resettle another 6,790 families or 56.5 percent of the 12,016 squatter families covered by the program.

Most of these families come from Manila (4,418) while the rest are from Pasig City (1,306), Taguig (775), Mandaluyong City (193) and Makati City (98).

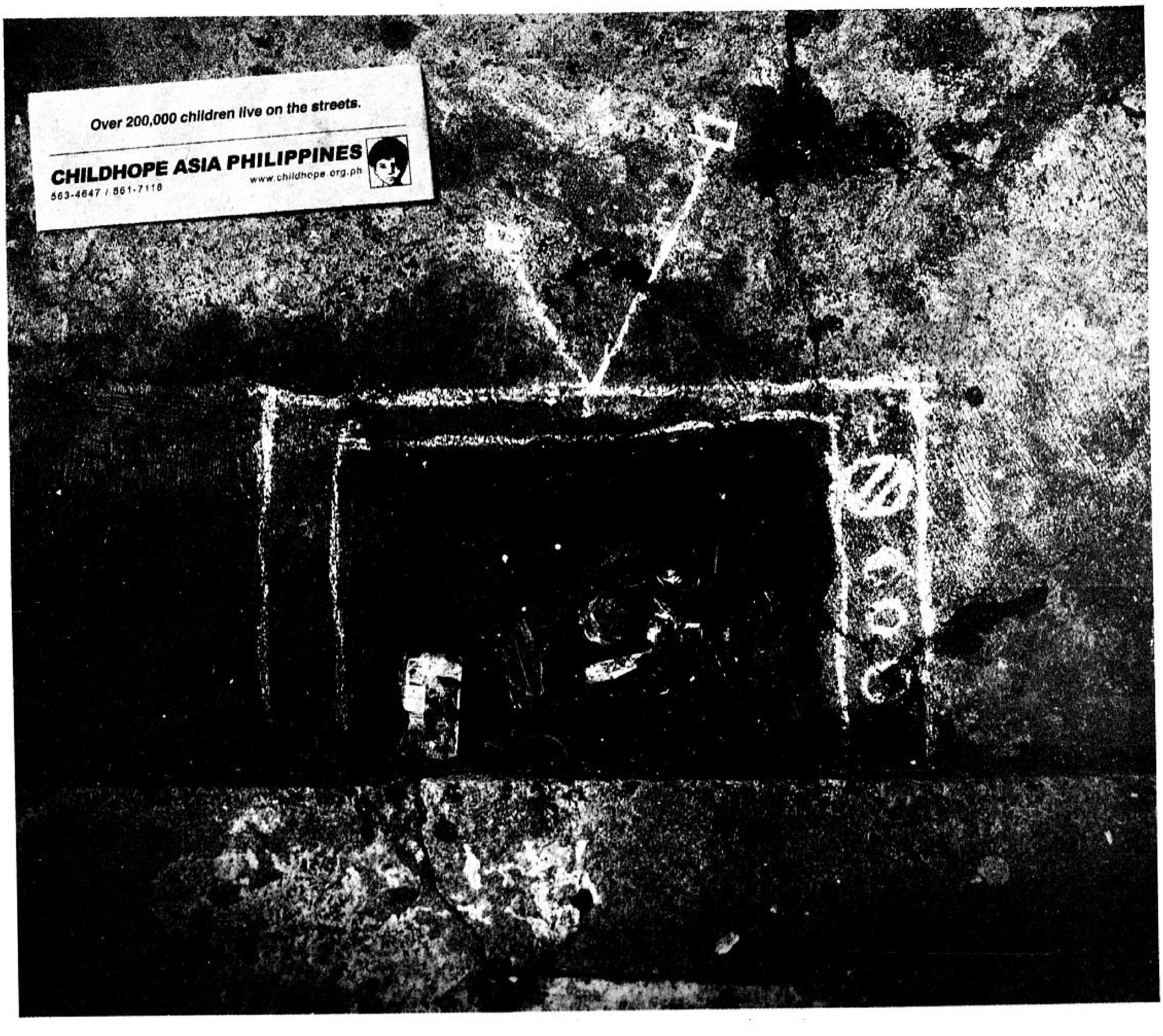
Between 2000 and 2002, a total of 4,664 families were resettled in government housing estates sites in Rodriguez, Rizal; Taguig, Metro Manila, and Trece Martires and Gen. Trias, Cavite. Only 562 families were relocated in the next two years.

According to PRRC executive director Bingle Gutierrez, the squatter relocation was "briefly suspended to allow the government to address the provision of basic services and entitlements."

"In an effort to increase the employment potential of relocated families, a number of livelihood skills training programs were conducted by the PRRC in 2003 and 2004," said the PRRC annual report.

They included, among others, courses on basic electronics, auto mechanics, snacks preparation, repair of small appliances, agri-based farming, and soap and wig-making.

"Several cooperatives had been established in at least three relocation sites with the aim of making them conduits in the livelihood programs," the commission also reported.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Helmets to allow Aguirre twins to continue therapy

NEW YORK— Formerly conjoined twins Carl and Clarence Aguirre have begun wearing custom-built plastic helmets so that the rebuilding of their skulls could be postponed to allow them to continue therapy that would help them walk and talk, doctors said Friday.

Staying out of the operating room is "a luxury they've earned" by responding so well to the series of major operations that climaxed with their separation last August, said Dr. David Staffenberg, chief of plastic surgery at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx.

"They're just soaking everything up," Staffenberg said. "They're gaining by the day. The benefits of therapy outweigh the benefits of any of the reconstructive surgeries."

The 3-year-old Filipino boys are taking steps with the aid of little walkers and could be toddling on their own "in a month or two," said Dr. Robert Marion, their pediatrician, at a news conference at Montefiore.

There's been much less progress in their speech, however, and Marion said, "We don't really understand why."

Doctors did find some blockage in the boys' ears and have inserted tiny tubes there, a common procedure to relieve pressure and fight infection, in hopes that better hearing might make for better speech.

"They know what people are saying and they understand," said Marion. "They really are cognitively OK." The boys manage a few words, including "hi," "bye" and "thank you," doctors say.

Dr. James Goodrich, the neurosurgeon who led the separation operation, said the slow start "isn't surprising if you consider that they spent 18 months in social isolation in the Philippines, then came to the US and an entirely different language."

In addition, he said, the boys were often sick, "and when you're sick you don't learn;" had blocked infected ears, and apparently were "hard-wired together" by the bit of brain they shared and could probably communicate in some form without speaking.

The new white helmets, made of polypropylene on the outside and foam padding on the inside, replaced the twins' heavy bandages on Thursday and "didn't seem to bother them at all," Marion said. They are meant to protect the tops of the boys' heads, where they were once attached and which are now covered only by leathery layers of skin, from normal 3-year-old activity like the fight he witnessed a few days ago.

Marion said he saw the brothers "going at each other" when they were in the same crib.

"They were fighting, grabbing, pushing each other into the bars. They were fine, but it was clear that if we're not going to reconstruct the skulls, they'll need more protection."

When the boys eventually do undergo skull reconstruction—Goodrich said that might happen in the fall—it won't be quite as big a job as anticipated, Staffenberg said. A few square inches of bone has regenerated on its own in both skulls, he said, a surprising development in children as old as three. *AP*

Top Sino official coming for talks

THE DEPUTY chief of staff of China's army will hold talks with defense officials in the Philippines in the coming days, the Department of National Defense said Saturday.

Gen. Xiong Guangkai, who will be accompanied by senior and mid-level military officers, was also scheduled to meet with President Macapagal-Arroyo, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz and presidential national security adviser Norberto Gonzales during his May 22-25 trip.

The visit comes on the heels of Chinese President Hu Jintao's state visit last month and indicates a warming of ties between the two countries despite their conflicting claims over the Spratlys Islands in the South China Sea.

The defense officials' meeting—the first Manila-Beijing annual defense and security dialogue—is expected to cover regional security, transnational crimes such as drug and people smuggling, as well as terrorism, a DND statement said.

The officials will also formalize the details of a Chinese donation of engineering equipment worth P80 million for the Philippine military's civic action projects, the statement said.

During Hu's visit to Manila in April, the two countries boosted economic cooperation with agreements worth more than $1.5 billion in Chinese loans and investments to the Philippines.

China is the fastest growing market for Philippine exports.

The two countries, along with Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei, have conflicting claims over the Spratlys, a chain of islands teeming with fish and believed to be rich in oil and natural gas.

During his visit, Hu sought to calm anxieties over China's growing power in the region, saying Beijing seeks "to settle existing differences through dialogue and promote common security through cooperation." *AP*

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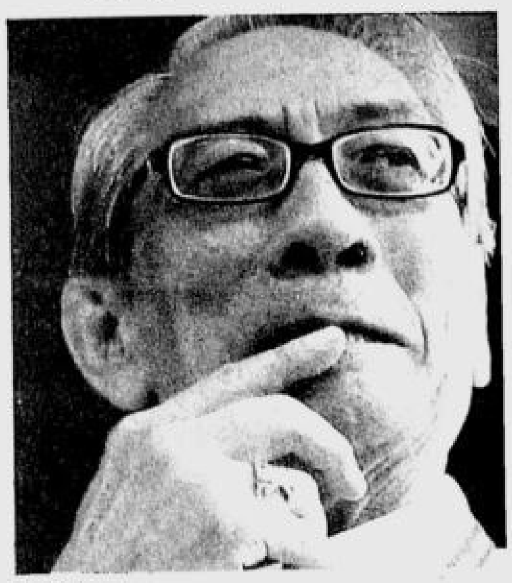
Big jueteng joke: Bishop Cruz receives ₱10-M check



CRUZ

By Desiree Caluza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau
and Jerome Aning

BAGUIO CITY——For two years now, Archbishop Oscar Cruz has been receiving huge checks—and it makes him wonder if they are coming from people who may want something from him: the jueteng lords.

On Monday, the Lingayen-Dagupan archbishop said he got one of the "biggest jokes" of his life: A P10-million check was delivered to his doorstep.

"I received a check, delivered by courier service LBC, that said P10 million is payable to Oscar Cruz. I told myself, 'Am I that cheap?' And I thought I was famous already," Cruz said in an amused tone during a speech at a convention on the ills of gambling at the San Pablo Seminary on Saturday.

The archbishop, who has been at the forefront of a campaign to stamp out the illegal numbers game and has submitted to Congress a list of alleged gambling protectors, said he just ignored the Bank of the Philippine Islands check.

Cruz, who is also chair of the Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng, said he did not bother to authenticate the check.

Source of checks

Asked what he planned to do with it, he said he would destroy it.

Cruz said the previous checks ranged in amounts from P10,000 to P50,000, P100,000 and P5 million. He said he never encashed them.

The prelate said he believed the checks came from jueteng operators.

The P10-million check was the largest.

"Whether these checks are funded or not, it does not matter. The [P10-million] check is on my table, I will destroy it in due time," he said.

To the waste basket

Some of the checks were sent from Pampanga, Batangas and Bicol.

"All these checks ... they all go to the waste basket. You know, these jueteng people think that everybody has a price," he told reporters.

Cruz said the checks were apparently sent by different people through the mail, speedmail and special delivery firms like LBC and DHL.

"Together with the checks always are brief computer-printed statements saying the same thing—that I should keep quiet about jueteng. That I should concentrate more on other issues such as destabilization, the New Peoples' Army, terrorism, etc. Otherwise, it might cost me my life," he said.

Huge octopus

Cruz described jueteng as a "veritable social cancer."

"What was then a tiny squid has now become a huge octopus—devouring anybody and anything in its way. Together with other illegal numbers games, its greedy and deadly tentacles have their grip all over the country. It renders many persons in authority deaf, blind and dumb," he said. *With a report from Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

New PNP tack: Strike 1 and you're out

By Dona Pazzibugan

AS A JUETENG scandal buffets the Arroyo administration, the Philippine National Police announced twin moves to show, it said, its resolve to eradicate the illegal numbers game.

PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao yesterday acknowledged that "guerilla jueteng operations [go on] in many Luzon provinces."

He laid down a new policy for all police commanders: Even if only one jueteng operator is arrested by higher police authorities, the police commander of the city or municipality concerned will be automatically relieved of his post.

The current "3-strike policy" calls for three raids before a police area commander is relieved.

"A one-strike policy instead of the three-strike policy shall now apply to all PNP chiefs of towns and component cities," Lomibao said at a news briefing.

In Metro Manila, however, the one-strike policy will apply to precinct commanders—but not to the city or municipal chiefs of police.

Jueteng-free certificate

Lomibao also laid down a new requirement for all regional police directors and chiefs of police.

They were required to submit by Monday a certification signed by the mayor and the parish priest that jueteng is "non-existent" in their areas of responsibility.

Lomibao was among government officials named by alleged jueteng witnesses brought forward by opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson as recipients of kickbacks from jueteng lords.

The allegations have remained unsubstantiated.

Will answer charges

Lomibao refused to comment on the allegations, saying he would answer them in an investigation to be conducted by the Department of Justice.

"I welcome the investigation and I'm willing to answer any allegations against me," Lomibao said.

Lomibao acknowledged that the PNP had not made substantial arrests against jueteng operators.

"More efforts should be exerted to pin down other big personalities like maintainers, financiers and protectors. I have directed the new Anti-Gambling Task Force led by Chief Supt. Edgar Baguio to conduct relentless operations," he said.

At present, only collectors and bettors are the ones usually arrested.

All-out war vs 'jueteng'

From page A1

work hard rather than entrust their lives to games of luck," she said.

The President also said she was pushing through with economic and political reforms to make it easier to do business in the country.

"We must challenge those who would only tear down but have no idea how to build up the Philippines. And we must oppose those who peddle fear and foment dissent on the backs of the poorest and most vulnerable among us," she said.

First time

It was the first time the President spoke out against jueteng since antigambling crusaders led by Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz urged her in mid-April to make a strong statement to show her seriousness in fighting the illegal numbers game.

Last week, three men claiming to be involved in jueteng operations said they had given or collected protection money for First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo and his elder son, Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel Arroyo—an allegation denied by the former through his lawyer, and personally by the latter.

Only on Friday, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel claimed that Ms Arroyo's having benefited from jueteng could explain her supposed reluctance to go hammer and tongs against the illegal activity. But he was quick to say that he had no proof to implicate her.

In a statement issued yesterday, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said: "We protest Senator Pimentel's sweeping allegations without a single piece of evidence at hand. The policy of the President against illegal gambling is firm."

In an interview with dzXL radio, Bunye stressed that Ms Arroyo was firmly against the legalization of jueteng, and that Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita's remark that he was in favor of it was his "personal opinion."

'Tama na'

Earlier in the day at the weekly Sulo Hotel press forum in Quezon City, Pimentel said an order from Ms Arroyo would definitely stop jueteng operations.

"What is lacking here is for Gloria to say: *Tama na yang jueteng* (Enough of jueteng)... Tomorrow it will stop if Gloria says so, and especially if she cleans out the corrupt police officials," Pimentel said.

He added: "My call to the President is, If you want to avoid [the suspicion that you're on the take], issue a definitive, clear and unequivocal order: Stop jueteng."

Elsewhere, Pimentel cautioned administration officials against "muddling" the planned Senate investigation on jueteng by making sweeping accusations that it was part of a destabilization plot.

"The problem here is that for every criticism that is hurled against the government, they will cry destabilization," he said, after Malacañang officials warned that the allegations against the President's husband and son could be part of a plot to topple the administration.

Pimentel said destabilization was "farthest from my mind."

"I don't want the President removed from office through extra-legal methods," he reiterated.

He also said he had opposed any power grab through coercive means because that would spawn violence and turn the Philippines into a banana republic.

Not a 'zarzuela'

At the Sulo Hotel forum, Pimentel said the Senate committee on rules would decide tomorrow or Tuesday on the jueteng inquiry. He said he would then confer with Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid and Sen. Manuel Villar on how to go about the investigation.

The Senate committees on games and on public order, chaired by Lapid and Villar, respectively, will conduct the inquiry.

"I'll meet with them to know the procedures because I don't want the Senate hearing to turn into a circus or *zarzuela* (theatrical stage play)," Pimentel said. "I don't want it to be a proxy battle between politicians who have axes to grind against one another."

Pimentel said he expected the Senate to have six continuous sessions devoted to the hearings, with a possible extension.

"Let's find out who are the jueteng lords, the local officials and police being paid. And if there is a connection to higher-ups, [the witnesses] should identify them," he said.

Pimentel said he had five to seven more witnesses, in addition to the 24 he had earlier mentioned, who would testify at the hearings.

"We are keeping their names secret because they are afraid for their lives," he said.

Election financier

Pimentel called on the public not to dismiss the jueteng investigation, saying that the illegal game was becoming a threat to Philippine democracy.

"Although we sometimes laugh at this and say that jueteng is just a game, I think this is a very critical issue. If jueteng lords buy access to public officials and these officials accede, it is this same money that is used in elections, which is probably what is really happening," he said, adding:

"We are just playing here in this so-called democracy ... [with] jueteng lords funding campaigns. What then is the importance of voting for a good candidate when he would still lose because one jueteng lord dumped funds on his opponent?"

Pimentel, who has made a failed run for the presidency, said jueteng money could be critical during election campaigns at the provincial level.

"If the jueteng lord fixes the financial requirements, certainly that can make a difference. The entire democratic process becomes laughable, a mockery," he said.

Exploiting the poor

Pimentel also said jueteng should not be legalized because it had been shown in some areas—like the cities of Puerto Princesa and Naga—that it could be stopped.

"It also exploits the poor. People who have no disposable income are the ones hit, particularly their money intended for basic needs," he said.

The poor are led to believe that if they bet on jueteng, their lives would improve. That is not true. They should work. That is why it is the obligation of the government to provide employment, not through jueteng, but through sound economic policies," he added. *With a report from Juliet Labog-Javellana*

Negative talk only hurting RP economy, PCCI head laments

THE PRESIDENT of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) yesterday expressed grave concern over the recent spate of unsubstantiated accusations questioning the legitimacy of the Arroyo administration and alleging the involvement of members of the First Family in "jueteng," the illegal numbers game.

In a statement, PCCI president Donald Dee warned that if left unabated, these irresponsible statements by politicians and their partisans could very well derail the country's economic growth as investors would once again shy away from the Philippines because of the political uncertainty.

Dee warned that the poorest sectors would suffer the most from any fallout arising from the irresponsible attacks on the administration, since businessmen would desist from making any new investments that could create more employment opportunities and increase productive capital circulating in the economy.

He also noted a similar view expressed by the European Commission (EC) representative to the Philippines that persistent rumors of destabilization against the government were not helping the country at all.

Dee, former president of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (Ecop), said businessmen and prospective foreign investors had already begun noting signs of economic recovery following the fallout from negative factors like the Asian crisis, the worldwide terror threat and the Iraqi war, and the past three years of soaring world crude prices.

"At this point, we have noted heartening signs that the Philippines is on the right track. Our April cash flow for government operations is positive; the E-VAT, while not a perfect bill has been passed, and this shows the administration's serious intent to solve the fiscal crisis; government is serious in winning the peace with the MILF and other groups, and by and large, the oil price crisis has been acceptably handled."

As a result of these positive developments, said Dee, more investors have again expressed interest in coming into the country.

"In all my trips abroad, the indication from talking to our counterparts is that the Philippines is back on the radar screen." he said.

However, Dee warned that the increasingly positive perception by investors could be reversed by the negative reports coming out in the media based on allegations hurled by politicians and partisan groups.

He added: "I don't think we can blame the media so much, because they are only reporting this information, although there is definitely room to exercise more prudence in reporting. But we in the chamber are really hoping that all people, especially politicians and partisan groups, behave in a more responsible manner and refrain from issuing inflammatory, unsubstantiated statements that project our country in a highly negative light."

DOJ puts squeeze on 3 'witnesses'

From page A1

In an earlier interview with the Inquirer and TV network GMA 7, O1, B1 and B2 alleged that they had given or collected jueteng money for the President's husband, Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, and their elder son, Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo.

Asked whether he could not be accused of shooting the messenger, Gonzalez said he was merely acting on Ms Arroyo's order to "investigate this, and file charges in court [against] whoever is involved."

"If these people are talking just to smear the President or the First Gentleman or his son, we can also recommend the filing of libel cases if they have no evidence at all... We cannot let anybody go to town and talk and talk and talk ... if there is no truth to it," he said.

No liability

Gonzalez also cleared Ms Arroyo of liability for allowing suspected gambling lord Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda to pay for her campaign materials when she ran for the vice presidency, as Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. pointed out on Friday.

"That was 1992—a long time ago," Gonzalez said. "What is the liability if somebody paid for a poster? That was a political thing."

According to Gonzalez, liquor and tobacco tycoon Lucio Tan did the same for President Joseph Estrada and the late Speaker Ramon Mitra.

He said Tan, "who is charged with multibillion-peso tax evasions," was the main financier when Mitra ran for president, and also provided a "safe house" for Estrada at the Corinthian Gardens subdivision in the latter's own run for the presidency in 1998.

"Many will be hit if we go after this," Gonzalez said, alluding to what the DOJ could unearth on other politicians who had received financial contributions from questionable sources.

But Gonzalez, who is still awaiting confirmation by the Commission on Appointments, said he was ready "to go as deep as I will be allowed."

"This is my last mission," he said, adding that even Pineda would not be spared from investigation.

Apart from Gonzalez, Ms Arroyo can also count on three senators—Miriam Defensor-Santiago and Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan of the administration and Juan Ponce Enrile of the opposition—for support.

Hearsay

Santiago who, like Enrile, was a member of the Senate during Estrada's aborted impeachment trial, said the allegations of O1, B1 and B2 were mere hearsay that would not prosper in court.

"If all we can receive in the Senate hearings are hearsay evidence in the nature of 'this person I was talking to told me...' that is not any kind of proof under the hearsay rules of the Rules of Court," Santiago said.

Both Enrile and Pangilinan saw no need for a Senate inquiry into the jueteng issue.

Enrile said there had been many jueteng investigations that did not bear fruit.

"If [witnesses] cannot show proof, we should stop conducting any probe on the matter and instead ask the Philippine National Police to heighten its campaign [against] illegal gambling," he said. "There is no need for the Senate to investigate the jueteng issue because [its] function is to inquire in aid of legislation only."

According to Pangilinan, RA 9287 increases the penalties for jueteng to include dismissal from the service for the PNP as well as public officials involved in jueteng and imprisonment of as long as 20 years.

"What we need is for the DOJ and the PNP to file criminal cases against gambling lords and public officials rather than another Senate investigation in aid of legislation," he said.

"What else is there to legislate? What we need now isn't legislation but no-nonsense prosecution that leads to conviction," he added.

Dead end

An administration senator who played a key role in Estrada's impeachment trial said that with no "star witness" like Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson to testify that he had handed jueteng money over to members of the First Family, the allegations against them would reach a dead end.

"From what I can gather, the chain [to link the President and her family] is not there. There is a missing link; there is no direct link [to implicate them]," the senator said in a phone interview, echoing what Pimentel and even Gonzalez had said earlier.

He asked not to be named, saying he intended to actively take part in the Senate inquiry on jueteng and did not want to be accused of having "prejudged" the case.

The senator said it must be proved first that Bong Pineda was actually a jueteng lord. Then there is the crucial task of establishing the existence of a person who could say that he or she had personally handed over the jueteng money to the Arroyos, he said.

Without this, he said, the allegations would simply end there.

But the senator observed that from their behavior, the Arroyo father and son appeared "rattled" by the bagmen's allegations.

"They are showing a guilty complex," the senator said.

In the City of San Fernando, Orlando Macaspac, presidential adviser on police affairs, said Pimentel should blame the continued jueteng operations on governors, mayors and Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes, and not on Ms Arroyo or her family.

"In case [Pimentel] forgot, he's the father of the Local Government Code," Macaspac said. "Under that law, it is the governors and mayors who choose police commanders. These local officials, not the police, should be made answerable for why jueteng persists in their areas. Why blame the President?"

According to Macaspac, policemen are being made "sacrificial lambs" in the latest controversy and are "in fact powerless" against governors and mayors in whose areas jueteng thrives.

He said his long experience would bear this out.

"The good senator is barking up the wrong tree," said Macaspac, a retired police general and a Kapampangan from Lubao town.

But he did not name any local officials involved in jueteng. Macaspac also said he found Reyes' "silence" on the issue "surprising."

"Why is he not doing anything? Why is he silent?" he said of Reyes, whose department exercises regulatory powers over local governments. *With a report from Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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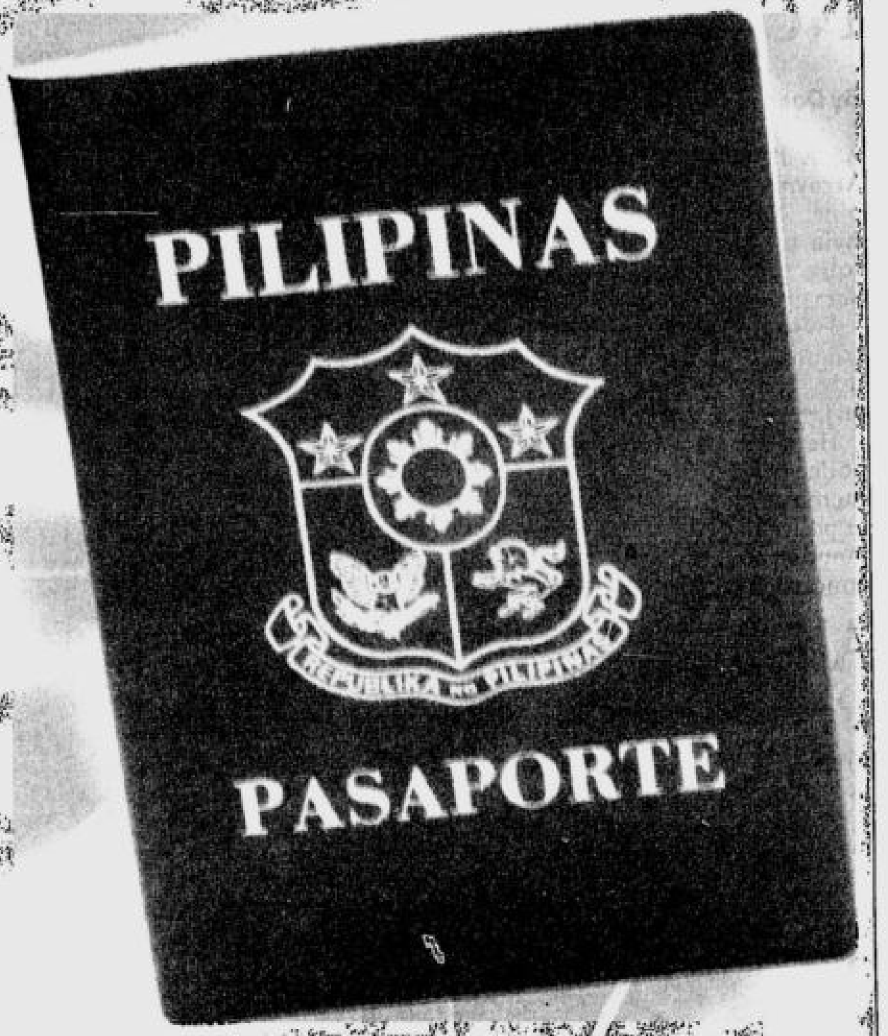

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REVOLUTIONARY OR FRANKENSTEIN SCIENCE?

Stem cell breakthrough ignites storm

PARIS—Opinion polarized sharply on Friday after South Korean and British scientists announced they had created nearly three dozen cloned embryos in the search for stem cell cures for disease and injury.

On one side were medical researchers, who hailed the work as massive progress in the endeavor to reverse degenerative disease or fix damaged spinal nerves, retinas and other tissues.

On the other side were antiabortion groups who consider embryonic stem cell research to be murder, and some voices warned the latest work would tempt maverick scientists to try to create a cloned baby.

President George W. Bush threatened on Friday to veto any legislation that eases restrictions on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research in the United States.

Bush—who did not mention the new research specifically—said he remained a "strong supporter of adult stem cell research," in which the material is sourced from adults rather than embryos.

"But I've made it very clear to the Congress that the use of federal money, taxpayers' money, to promote science which destroys life in order to save life, I'm against that. And therefore, if the bill does that, I will veto it," he said.

They derived 11 stem cell lines from 31 cloned embryos, using eggs whose nucleus, which contains the DNA program for life, had been reprogrammed with DNA from skin cells taken from volunteers with disease or spinal cord injury. A British team also announced it had created three cloned embryos but no stemcell lines had resulted.

None of these embryos was allowed to become a baby. Within a few days, the tiny cluster of cells was harvested for their value in therapeutic research.

Embryonic stem cells are like blank slates. Discovered two decades ago, they are cells that develop in the first six days after an egg is fertilised. At this stage, they are "pluripotent"—they can develop into any of the body's cell types.

The big hope is to grow self-replicating lines of these cells, and find a way of coaxing them into specific cell types so that they can then be transplanted into the body as replacement for tissues that are damaged or destroyed.

But for this to work, the cells first have to overcome the problem of rejection by the body's immune system. Cloned cells would in theory would not be rejected, as the immune guardians would consider them friends rather than intruders.

Scientists gave a highly enthusiastic response to the South Korean work, saying that its biggest achievement was technical—to create, simply and efficiently, a large number of clones that are apparently free of chromosome damage.

That means it will become easier to explore hypotheses about stem cells and the way diseases develop, they said. And it should also make it easier to use these cells in therapy if, at some distant time, they are ever authorised for treatment.

Ian Wilmut, the British scientist who led the cloning team that created Dolly the Sheep in 1996, said the work was "a very significant and important step forward."

French genetics pioneer Axel Kahn described it as "a technical tour de force... news of prime importance." Another leading French geneticist, Marc Peschanski, said it was a "scientific revolution," a "spectacular" advance on previously cloning performance.

But Peschanski also acknowledged that some of the technical barriers to creating a cloned human "have now been lowered." That scenario was evoked by the British organisation Life, which campaigns against abortion as well as embryo research.

"If, as they claim, these South Korean scientists can reliably produce cloned embryos healthy enough to survive to the blastocyst stage for cell harvesting, we can assume that they can reliably produce embryos healthy enough to try implanting them in women," it said.

"This Frankenstein science should be banned in every civilised country," it said. *AFP*

Sun
30p
INSIDE SADDAM'S JAIL CELL
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TYRANT'S

A READER looks at the front page of the British tabloid newspaper "The Sun" which carries a photo showing former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein, clad only in white briefs, folding a pair of trousers, in London, May 20. AP

UK tabloid publishes more revealing photos of Saddam

BAGHDAD, Iraq—A British tabloid published more revealing photographs of Saddam Hussein in US custody on Saturday, a day after it ran a front-page picture of the former Iraqi leader naked except for his underwear.

Some Iraqis expressed anger, but US President George W. Bush said he did not think the images would incite further anti-American sentiment.

The new pictures published in The Sun including one of Saddam seen through barbed wire wearing a white robe-like garment, and another of Ali Hassan al-Majid, better known as "Chemical Ali," in a bathrobe and holding a towel.

Alongside Saddam's photo in Saturday's editions, The Sun ran pictures of a man and woman. They were identified as al-Majid, who faces charges for his role in poison gas attacks against Iraq's Kurdish minority, and Huda Salih Mahdi Ammash, a biotech researcher dubbed "Mrs. Anthrax," who got her nickname for her alleged role in trying to develop bioweapons for Saddam.

The man, grizzled and gray, is shown hunched wearing a bathrobe, leaning on a cane and holding a towel while rising from a chair. The woman can be seen wearing a headscarf, walking outdoors and looking forlornly in the distance.

Regardless of any effect the images may have on Iraq's insurgency, they were certain to offend Arab sensibilities and heap more scorn on an American image already tarnished by the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal and allegations by Newsweek, later retracted, about desecration of the koran at the US prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"It is clear that the pictures were taken inside the prison, which means that American soldiers have leaked the pictures," said Saddam's chief lawyer, Ziad al-Khasawneh. He said the photos "add to acts that are practiced against the Iraqi people, and of course we remember what happened in Abu Ghraib and we remember what happened in Guantanamo."

The Sun, owned by Rupert Murdoch, said the photos it published Friday and Saturday were provided by a US military official it did not identify who hoped their release would deal a "body blow" to the insurgency.

Sun managing editor Graham Dudman told The Associated Press that the newspaper paid "a small sum" for the photos. He would not elaborate except to say it was more than 500 British pounds, which is about US$900 (euro714).

The New York Post, which Murdoch also owns, published the photos Friday.

Saddam's attorney said he would sue the newspaper "and everyone who helped in showing these pictures."

The US military in Baghdad said the publication of the photos violated US military guidelines "and possibly Geneva Convention guidelines for the humane treatment of detained individuals."

A spokesman, Staff Sgt. Don Dees, said the military would question troops responsible for Saddam.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said US military officials in Iraq believe the photos are perhaps more than one year old, although no specific date has been established.

"This is something that should not have happened," Whitman said. *AP*

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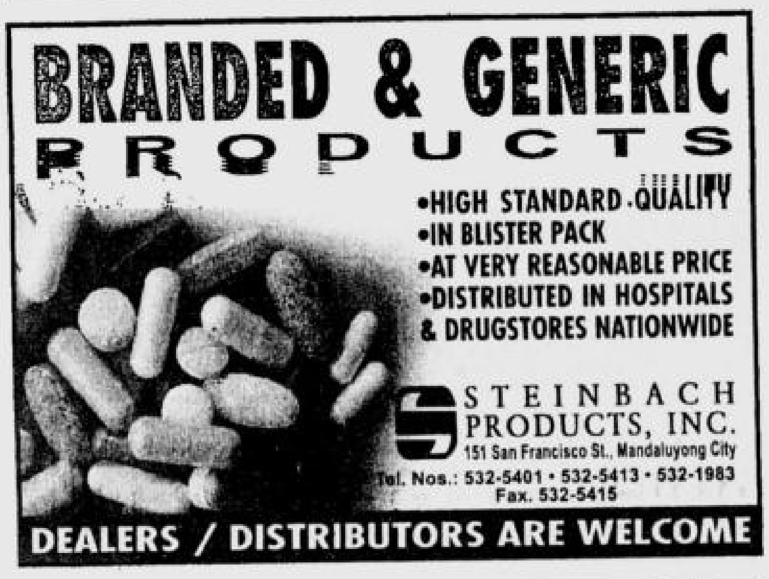
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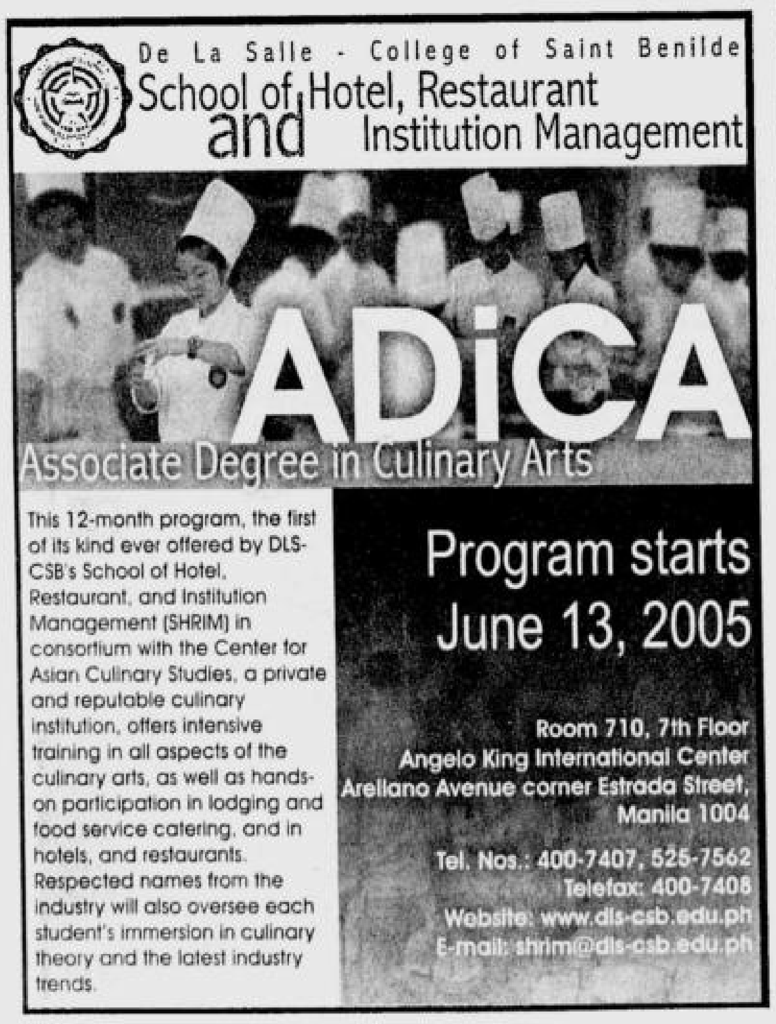
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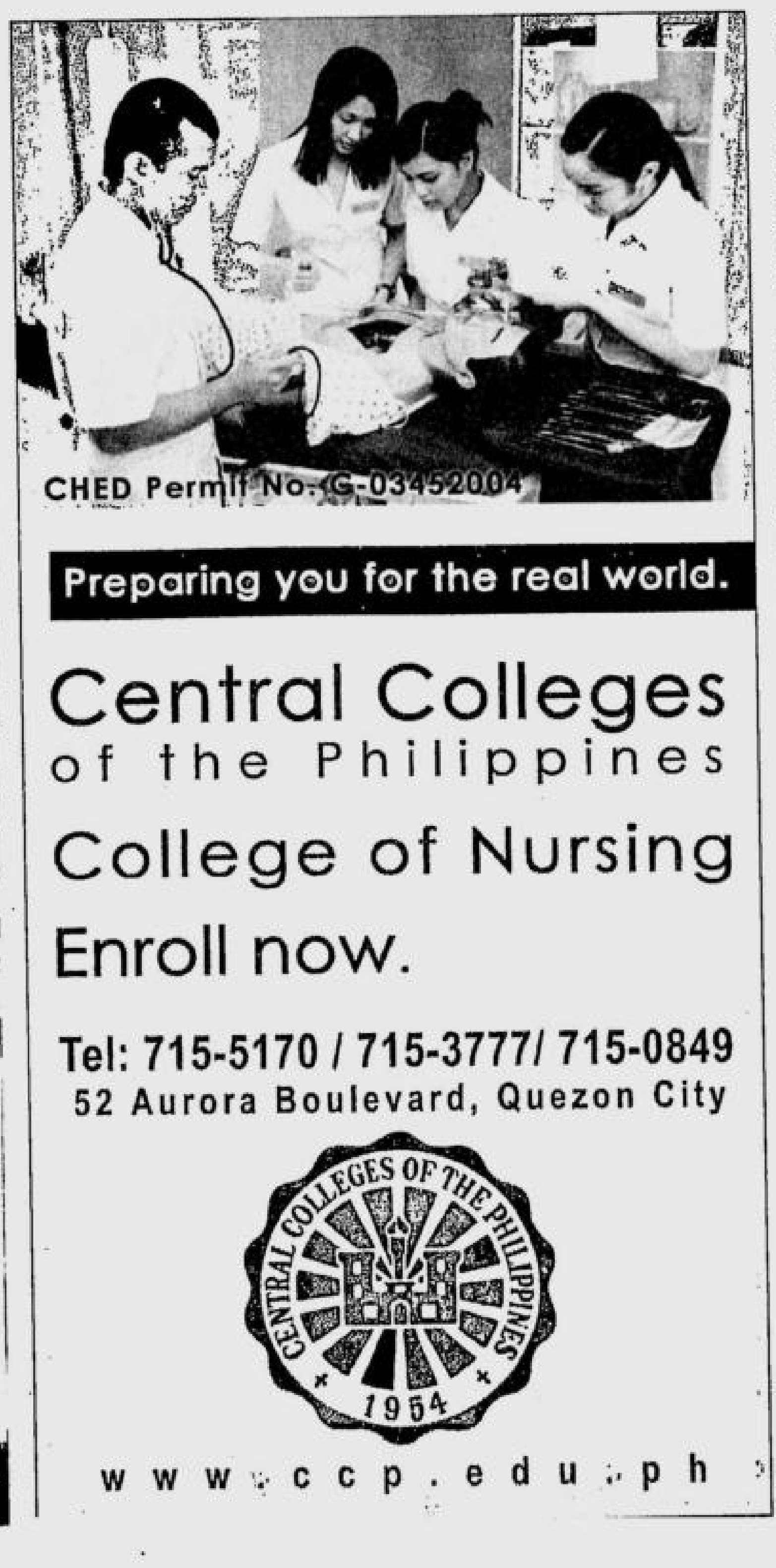
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Afghan president 'shocked' by US abuse report

KABUL—Afghan President Hamid Karzai said on Saturday he was shocked by a US army report on abuse of detainees in Afghanistan, saying his government wanted custody of all Afghan prisoners and control over US military operations.

The abuse described in the report, including details of the deaths of two inmates at an Afghan detention center, happened in 2002 and emerged from a nearly 2,000-page file of US Army investigators, the New York Times reported on Friday.

"It has shocked me thoroughly and we condemn it," Karzai told a news conference. "We want the US government to take very, very strong action, to take away people like that."

Karzai, a staunch ally in the US-led war against terrorism, is due to leave on a US trip later on Saturday. He will meet President George W. Bush for talks next week.

Karzai wants to forge a broad long-term partnership with his most important ally but he said he would also reiterate a request for the return of Afghan prisoners and control over US military operations.

The US commands a foreign force in Afghanistan of about 18,300, most of them American, fighting Taliban insurgents and hunting militant leaders, including Osama bin Laden.

Many Afghans have criticized US troops for heavy-handed tactics, such as breaking into people's homes in the middle of the night in their search for militants.

Growing resentment of US forces was partly behind violent anti-US protests last week sparked by a report US army interrogators had desecrated the Koran. Sixteen people were killed and many wounded in violence in several Afghan cities.

That report by Newsweek was later retracted, but the Red Cross later said it had told the Pentagon of allegations US personnel had mishandled the Koran. *Reuters*

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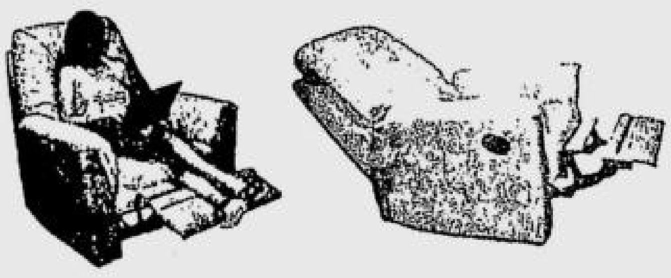

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Minogue breast cancer surgery successful, says surgeon

MELBOURNE, Australia—Australian pop superstar Kylie Minogue has undergone successful surgery to remove a breast cancer and is expected to fully recover from the disease, her surgeon said on Saturday.

The surgeon, Jenny Senior, said Minogue underwent surgery Friday evening in Melbourne's St Frances Xavier Cabrini Hospital and was in high spirits.

"I'm very pleased to be able to confirm that the operation was successful," she said in a statement to reporters outside the hospital.

"I feel confident that we caught the cancer in time and that she is now on the road to complete recovery," she said.

"Kylie is currently resting after the operation and her spirits are high and she is feeling fine." Senior refused to take questions or say where Minogue, 36, was recovering from the medical procedure, which she described as "best practice around the world for a girl with an early breast cancer". "Kylie has been the perfect patient and has charmed all my staff. I just wish I could have met her under happier circumstances," she said.

"Kylie has asked me to pass on her thanks once again to all who have expressed their love and concern for her. Your support has certainly helped her through a tough time." Minogue was surrounded by family and friends, including her boyfriend, French actor Olivier Martinez, and her sister Dannii, also a singer.

The London-based Minogue, Australia's biggest pop star who has sold an estimated 40 million records worldwide, was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer at the start of the week after arriving home to begin the Australasian leg of a world tour.

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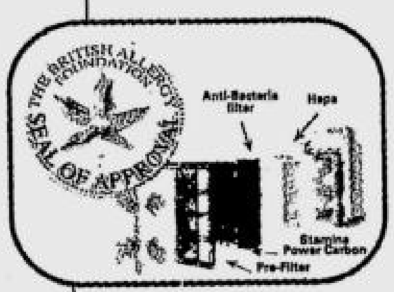

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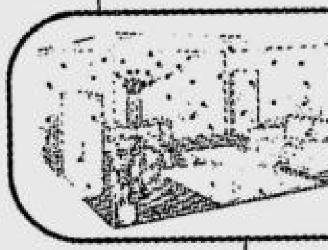
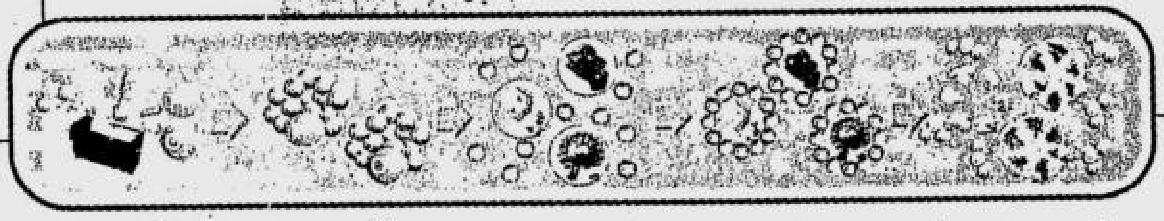
The Plasmacluster Ions diffuse throughout the entire room or enclosed area where mold spores and odor-causing molecules are floating.
These Plasmacluster Ions collide with the mold spores and odor-causing molecules, and are transformed into hydroxyl (OH) groups.
By transforming into OH groups, Plasmacluster Ions break the cell walls of harmful mold spores, and reduce odor-causing molecules to harmless substances. Plasmacluster Ions also break down cigarette smoke, garbage and toilet odors in the same way.





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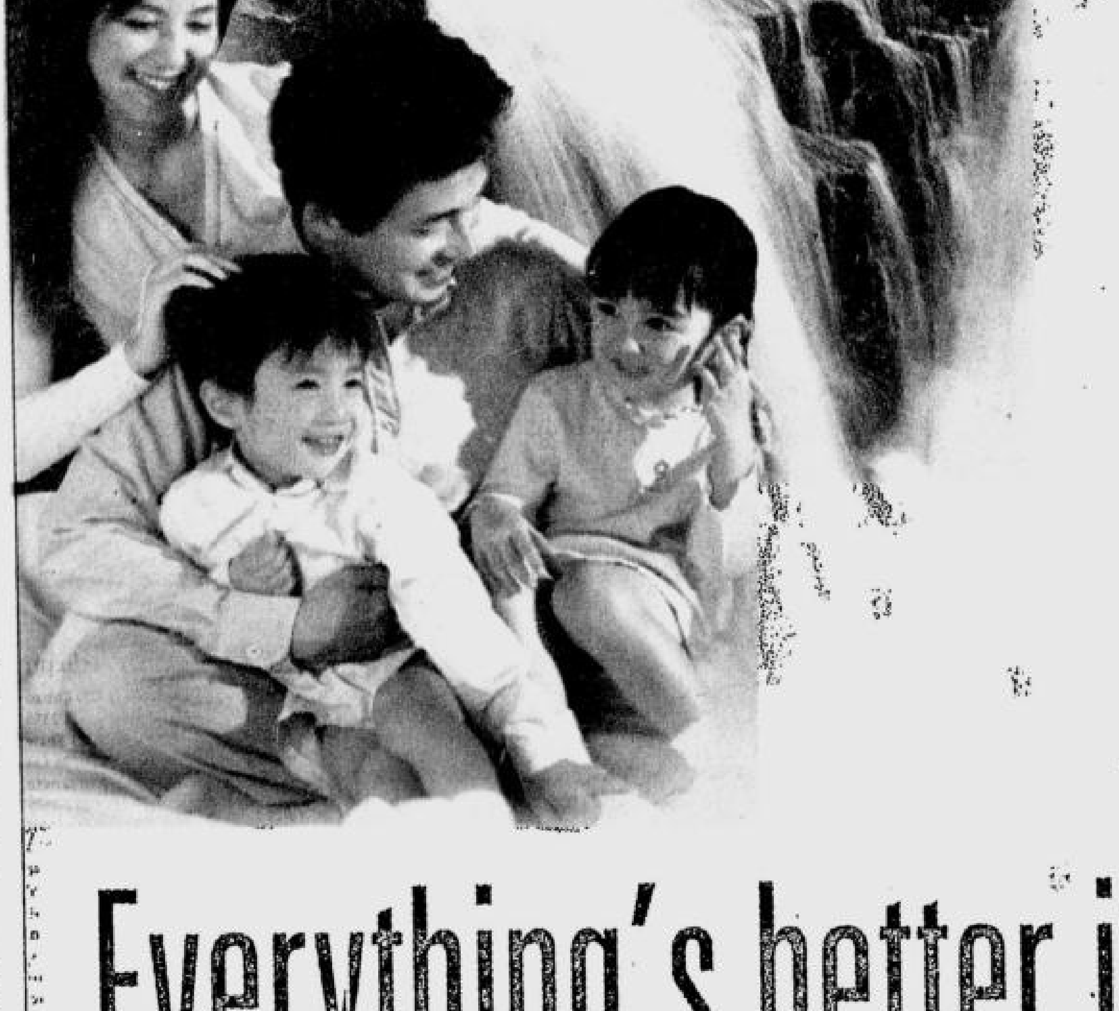

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US Army recruiters a
aggressive; review of

WASHINGTON—The US Army's 7,500-member recruiting force on Friday reviewed standards of conduct amid growing complaints of aggressive tactics to meet hard-to-meet enlistment quotas, officials said.

Major General Michael Rochelle, head of the army's recruiting command, said seven incidents of alleged misconduct by recruiters were under investigation.

Rochelle declined to discuss details but said most involved prequalifying prospective recruits despite a record of drug use or lack of high school diplomas—"taking short cuts which is simply not acceptable," he said.

In one widely reported case in Houston, Texas, a recruiter left a phone message with a prospective recruit threatening him with arrest if he did not show up for an appointment.

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Protesters demand j
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JAKARTA, Indonesia—Thousands of protesters across Indonesia on Saturday marked seven years since the downfall of former dictator Suharto, burning his portrait and demanding his prosecution on corruption charges.

The largest protest took place in Makassar, the capital of South Sulawesi province, where hundreds of students chanting "Put Suharto On Trial" marched to the local parliament.

"It has been seven years since the reform movement started but there has been no legal action against Suharto," said Jaffar Mahmud, one of the student leaders. "He must be put on
trial because his yea
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Tsunami quake stron

WASHINGTON—The earthquake that triggered Asia's deadly tsunami in December was more powerful than scientists originally estimated, according to new studies published in Friday's edition of Science.

"The Earth is still ringing like a bell today," nearly six months after the Sumatra-Andaman earthquake, Roland Burgmann, professor of earth and planetary science at the University of California, Berkeley, told the journal.

The quake generated a tsunami that killed about 300,000 people in states around the Indian Ocean.

"We've never been able to study earthquakes of this magni-
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Uzbek refugees afraid to return home

BARRASH, Kyrgyzstan—Refugees who fled a crackdown by Uzbek troops said on Friday they dared not return home, and the United Nations turned up the volume on its demands for an inquiry into deaths believed to have run into hundreds.

Reuters correspondents who travelled to a village near the epicentre of last week's violence, the town of Andizhan, saw fresh graves in which, local residents said, victims of the clashes between protesters and troops were buried.

President Islam Karimov has denied ordering troops to fire on civilians in Andizhan, but rejected a United Nations call for an international inquiry.

Asked about Karimov's refusal to allow an inquiry, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said: "As to what consequences there might be, I think Uzbekistan does not want to endure further isolation from the international community". Rice told a news conference in Washington that the U.S. administration, which last year withheld $11 million in aid to Uzbekistan, would not be able to provide funds unless it can certify progress on human rights and democracy in the former Soviet republic.

Karimov's officials have blamed the violence on armed Islamic extremists.

"We feared they would finish us off in Andizhan so we decided to flee to Kyrgyzstan," said Khasan Shakirov, 27, whose said his two brothers had disappeared. "I will not return." He was among more than 500 people crammed into a small refugee camp inside Kyrgyz territory but just 150 metres (yards) from the Uzbek border. In interviews, they said they were ordinary people, not terrorists.

"I was running in the crowd to survive. Those who left the crowd were finished off by snipers," said Nabidzhan Yunusov, a 41-year-old market trader, describing a dramatic border crossing during which he was wounded in the hip.

Karimov has said 169 people were killed when soldiers seized control over Andizhan after what he called a "bandit" uprising.

Officials say there were only seven or eight civilian deaths, describing the rest as police and rebels.

Witnesses said more than 500 people were killed by troops putting down a popular protest against the trial of 23 local businessmen and an outburst of anger over Karimov's tough rule.

Reuters correspondent Dmitry Solovyov saw around 20 fresh graves near the village of Bogu Shamol outside Andizhan which, locals said, contained the corpses of unidentified civilians secretly buried by soldiers after the Andizhan crackdown.

"This is the place they buried the unidentified bodies of people killed last Friday," said a local resident. "There are similar burials at the other end of this cemetery and in neighbouring places." Uzbekistan, with 26 million inhabitants the most populous state in ex-Soviet Central Asia, is an ally in U.S. President George W. Bush's war on terrorism. It hosts an American air base which serves as a waystation for operations in Afghanistan.

A top U.S. officer said operations had been cut back in the wake of the unrest. "We have decided to make sure that we're cautious about how we're operating," said General John Abizaid, head of U.S. Central Command. *Reuters*

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AUSTRALIAN singer Kylie Minogue performs at the Brit Awards at Earls Court in London in this February 20 photo. Kylie has undergone successful surgery for early breast cancer at a Melbourne hospital and her spirits are high, her surgeon said May 21. REUTERS

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uotas will not be the pressure. Recruiters must enlist two people a month. "The mission is the mission," he said.

Rochelle acknowledged that recruiters face the most adverse climate he has seen in his 33-year career.

They have been accosted by students on college campuses and received threats at recruiting stations, he said, which prompted him to call a stand-down in December to review force protection.

"We are faced with very low unemployment, the first time the all-volunteer force has been challenged in sustained land combat. I believe the total casualties are up over 8,000," he said.

"And in point of fact we now have very, very low propensity to enlist both on the part of our young Americans, and likewise on the part of influencers, and by that I mean parents, coaches and other adults whose opinions matter to our young 17 to 24 year olds," he said. *AFP*

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AN INDONESIAN student burns a picture Indonesia's former president Suharto while others stand watch during a protest in Jakarta, May 21. AP

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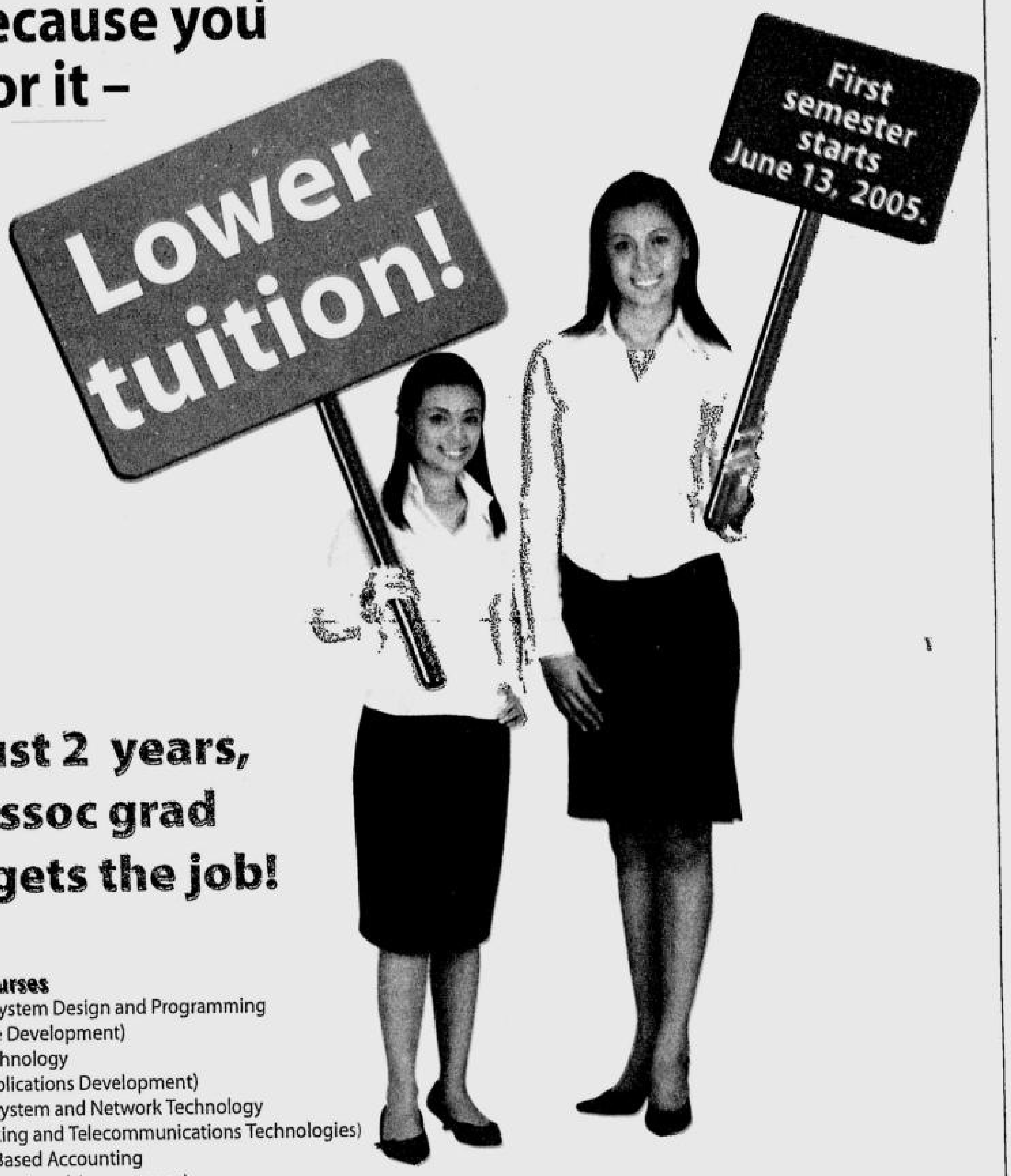
lso set records for t rupture and the n of faulting, the orted.

Burgmann and other scientists who studied data from the quake found it caused deformations of the earth's crust as far away as 4,500 km—five or six times the deformations caused by previous big quakes, the study said.

In another study published in Friday's edition of Science, Yale University professor Jeffrey Park said the quake's rupture moved giant slabs of rock at least 20 meters over a record distance equivalent to that between Florida and New England.

Park warned the Sumatra-Andaman earthquake would continue to affect the region for many years and could trigger more large quakes. *Reuters*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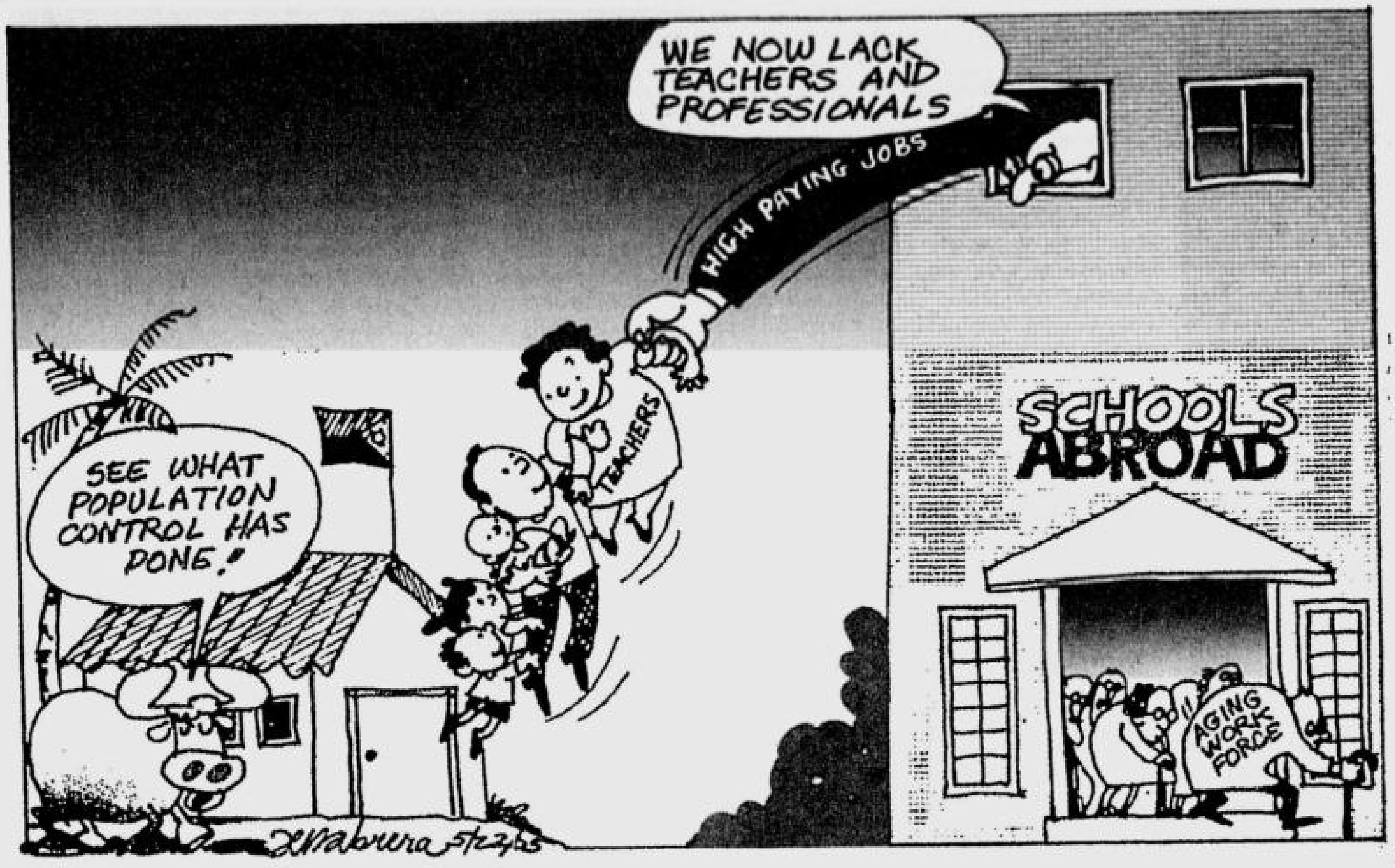
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Unconscious

EDITORIAL

WHEN the Supreme Court decided against the Metro Manila Development Authority, rejecting some of the powers MMDA exercises, not just the usual suspects rejoiced. Mayors gloated and cheered. That was understandable. What wasn't understandable—and, indeed, was disgusting—was how the public exulted in the decision and promptly attempted to demonstrate their joy to MMDA officers, particularly those involved in traffic management.

The evidence may be anecdotal, but it is there, nonetheless. Motorists would yell at blue-uniformed MMDA traffic aides and dare them to try and arrest them. Traffic on Edsa went from bad to worse. An air of anarchy spread, and the achievements of the MMDA, controversial as some of them indeed were, suddenly accounted for nothing.

There is no greater manifestation of our society's lack of civic consciousness—the sense of being part of a whole, with responsibilities to others—than this. We celebrate every occasion that serves to limit opportunities to regulate matters for the benefit of the whole. Everything, it seems, is subject to negotiation with the objective of freeing up people from the constraints of the law. For example, jeepney drivers recently offered not to go on strike if government lowered the penalties for traffic violations. This is yet another demonstration of the desire of people to indulge their anarchic desires at the expense of public interest, and even, theirs. After all, what are traffic laws for, if not to ensure public safety for drivers and passengers alike?

When the Supreme Court decided that the MMDA didn't have a legal basis for some of the powers it was exercising, it didn't say those powers shouldn't be exercised at all. Indeed, the fundamental argument of the city mayors was that they, and not the MMDA, should be exercising those powers, most particularly, those that pertain to traffic management. Certain local governments, such as Makati, have fiercely resisted the MMDA, and gloried in either instituting stricter regulations or imposing additional ones, while refusing to accept the validity of the rules of the MMDA. Other municipalities, such as San Juan, have been less confrontational, but just as insistent on doing their own thing.

But what of the public whose lives or daily routines are not confined to the political turf of specific municipalities and cities? What of the larger whole that inhabits the National Capital Region and the entity known as Metro Manila? There must be some sort of rhyme and reason, some sort of coordination and cooperation between the political entities that, individually and collectively, in one way or the other, affect the lives of people who reside and must carry on with their jobs across the borders of the different cities and towns of Metro Manila.

Rep. Teodoro Locsin Jr.—almost certainly with some prodding from Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay—has moved for the abolition of the MMDA as a useless body. As it stands, because of its shaky standing in terms of the law, MMDA's authority may indeed be virtually baseless. This doesn't mean, however, that the answer is to abolish it and further fortify the little kingdom mentalities of Metro Manila's mayors. While we do not think it's practical to abolish existing cities, and create a supercity with the present cities and municipalities as the equivalent of wards, still, Congress must take it upon itself to take a sober look at Metro Manila's needs.

Those needs—for sanitation, environmental management, infrastructure, and law and order—require greater, not less, cooperation, more interdependence than outright independence. The public may celebrate the legal reverses of the MMDA, but when their joy is taken to its logical and grotesque conclusion, who will cry foul but the same people who will suddenly find their garbage piling up during the rainy season?

Whatever happens, it is a sobering and disheartening testimony to the state of civic consciousness of our motorists and politicians—and even of the general public—that as a consequence of the attempt to instill some rational order in Metro Manila, there is now the demand for such effort to stop.

The ultimate villain

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

MOST people agree with the light penalty imposed on the 184 enlisted men who participated in the Oakwood mutiny and later plea-bargained for their conviction of the lesser offense of insubordination and disrespect for military authority. They were the least guilty in that failed uprising and were mostly misled by their superior officers who should have known better than to stage that aborted coup.

But similar sympathy is withheld from the officers themselves who actively directed the armed defiance of the Republic of the Philippines to which they had sworn allegiance and the duty to defend it against all its enemies. They themselves became its enemies, of their own choice and with star billing. The whole nation watched anxiously as they swaggered in their rented headquarters, with guns ready to fire and bombs to detonate. It looked as if they were prepared to die nobly for their principles, but their vaunted courage, like their ammunition, was a dud.

I wrote about them in this column of Feb. 7, 2004, as follows:

"I have not seen a more absurd sight than the video last week of the Kawal Pilipino soldiers hiding behind their improvised flag as they recited their complaints against the administration. It would have been comical if it were not so ridiculous. The so-called soldiers were not brave enough to show their faces, for fear obviously of being punished for their protests. They were being bold but only as long as they were anonymous."

"Everyone must have the courage to stand up and be counted, but the so-called defenders of the nation were lacking in that essential virtue. Even ordinary persons without the extraordinary bravery expected of a member of the Armed Forces do not hesitate to stand by their word and be identified with it. The Kawal protesters hid behind their extra-large flag and dishonored it."

To nobody's surprise, the officers later surrendered without a fight and apologetically saluted their commander in chief. They have recited their own act of contrition. And now they are probably expecting the same leniency that was extended the enlisted men they inveigled into joining their lost adventure.

They do not deserve mercy, of course, for their guilt cannot be denied, belittled or excused. They must suffer the wrath of the law for disdaining their constitutional duty to be "the protector of the people and the State." Even assuming the validity of their complaints in general, they must still be punished for expressing them unlawfully, through the barrel of the gun. More so now, when the people expect a more rigorous discipline of the Armed Forces, where many irregularities have lately been exposed.

But will the punishment of the responsible officers end the Oakwood affair? Not at all, for the principal culprit has yet to be identified and punished. That person is the guiltiest among the Oakwood rebels and deserves the highest penalty for seducing the young officers with his sinister plan to destroy the Republic of the Philippines. His ultimate objective was to replace the present government with a military junta with him as its supreme and authoritarian head.

And who is he?

According to then Interior Secretary Joey Lina, the mastermind of the Oakwood rebellion was Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan. He had served an undistinguished 6-year term in the Senate and was finishing an also indifferent second 3-year term. He was to be retired to private life in 2004, but that was still in the far and unforeseeable future. Oakwood was for now.

Initial investigation of the mutiny showed that it was inspired—if not actually but secretly commanded—by Honasan. His conduct at the height of the disorder, seen in the light of his past record as the chief plotter of the failed coups in 1987 and 1989, strengthened the speculation about his leadership in the new military disturbance. Gringo himself added to this suspicion when, with much publicity, he went underground although there was no warrant to arrest him.

People recalled the Biblical adage that "the wicked flee when no man pursueth, but the innocent are as bold as a lion."

Lina cited certain documents and articles that he claimed implicated Gringo as the leader of the new coup. Dared to bare his arm to show that he did not sport the Oakwood rebel tattoo, the suspect refused. Gringo later surfaced and petitioned the Supreme Court to stop the Department of Justice from investigating him as the possible provocateur of the uprising. He failed. But Lina has yet to see Gringo indicted as the prime reason for the young officers' detention and prosecution.

The chronic threat of the Armed Forces to destabilize the civilian government must be disarmed. This constant intimidation cannot be placated by militarization of the public service, imposing token penalties like 100 push-ups on rebel soldiers, and pretending official ignorance of military abuses or cover-up of the offenders.

We should not write finis to the Oakwood affair until its real leader is convicted and penalized. Discovering its devious instigator is part of the problem and also its solution.

Getter or giver?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a widow who asked the family's lawyer about her late husband's will. "Your husband left all he had to the home for the aged," the lawyer replied.

"How about me?" asked the widow.

"Madam, you are all he had," was the lawyer's reply.

* * *

In today's gospel (John 3, 16-18), we are reminded that God gave us all He had, His only Son, out of love for us. He has given us a lot of other things besides, but His greatest act of love is that He gave us His very self in His own and only Son? Are you a giving person? How much do you really give? Do you go through life giving or getting?

* * *

Giving is the essential movement within the Trinity: the Father gave us His Son; the Son gave us the Holy Spirit; the Holy Spirit is the gift of the Father and the Son. The Trinity reminds us that our lives too must be centered on giving. True living is not about getting but giving. Are you a getter or a giver? In this life, the getters get going, but getting what, going where, we ask. In the end, it is the givers who really live and who really get going—even to eternity.

* * *

There are all sorts of getters. There are getters who just get simply for the joy of it. And then there are getters who get, for comfort and security, because of greed. And then, there are getters who claim that they get so they can give. Okay, fine, whatever. However, may such getters be reminded that giving is not limited to material things, and that giving is not something you reserve in the end. Anyone can give himself or herself now. So, when will you finally give, and when will you finally really give yourself?

* * *

In one of my recent pilgrimages, I met Loreta Ficarelli who knows what giving is about. She gave up the comfort of her home in Chicago to be with her two sons Dan and Philip who live in the Philippines. She could have just enjoyed her retirement and played golf the whole day, but because of love, she chose to be with her sons, especially with Philip who is disabled. Is she happy? Yes, she is happy. Very happy. Real givers are, and they will always be happy. Are you not happy? Maybe you should move on from being a getter to being a giver.

* * *

May the Trinitarian spirit of giving permeate the hearts of our leaders. We have too many getters and pocketers in our country! We, as a people and as a nation, will never move on as long as we are led by people whose main purpose is to get more and more money from the people.

* * *

I have often wondered how people who get what is not theirs can live with the thought that other people are suffering because of their greed and selfishness. How can they sleep at night knowing that they have deprived others of what is rightfully theirs? That's the problem with getters in this world. They have the illusion they can get away with everything in this world, and they think they can get out of this world alive. Wrong on both counts. Getters are not forever. Getting isn't everything!

* * *

The happiest people I have met in this world are those who really know how to give. The most miserable people I have met are those who are so obsessed with getting more and more. Getters are little children who have never outgrown their greed and insecurities.

As long as one is set on the getting mode, one never really lives. For him or her, people are a means, loving is a non-issue, and sacrifice is stupidity. Too focused on quantity, he or she soon forgets quality.

* * *

Parents, are you teaching your children to be givers? While it is true that they need to survive and earn money in this world, it is equally true that they must learn to give something to this world. They must learn not only to be wise, but also to be generous.

* * *

Give time while you can, especially to your loved ones. Sometimes, please give them some time. Tell them that you care. Give them quality time.

* * *

Allow me to share with you the lyrics of a song I made for Fatima Soriano, who gives her sufferings unto the Lord:

MY SUFFERING

My life is very simple
My dreams are few and little
I don't have much to offer
Except the pains I bear
Refrain:
My suffering is my offering
I'm offering all my sufferings
And if ever I will face
More trials and more pains
Then I offer them gladly again.
Refrain:
I know that there's a reason
I know I have a mission
Someday, I'll see the vision
For now, I must be strong
Refrain:
Sometimes I doubt and question
I need some consolation
But if this is my mission
I must be brave and strong
Refrain:

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, remind me that life is not about getting, but more of giving. Amen.

What about the civilian conspirators?

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

LAST Friday saw the release of 184 enlisted personnel who participated in the failed Oakwood mutiny of July 27, 2003. After almost two years of detention, the soldiers who pleaded guilty to lesser charges of violating "good order and military discipline" were assigned to the Headquarters Group at Camp Aguinaldo. They will undergo two weeks of basic military training, including special counseling and a reorientation program, before being allowed to rejoin their mother units in the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Their punishment for attempting to overthrow the government—a Feliciano Commission finding—was one year at hard labor, demotion by three ranks and forfeiture of two-thirds of their basic pay for three to six months. Some observers consider the sentences quite harsh. But considering the charges against them, they were looking at possible life terms. Not that this could ever happen in a country where push-ups are seen as standard penance for similar actions.

As for the 96 officers mostly in the rank of captain, they continue to face court martial proceedings for violation of various Articles of War. Twenty-nine of the 96 are considered as hard core, which is one way of saying that they remain unrepentant and dangerous, and as such, are unlikely to be treated with any degree of leniency. They also face charges before the Makati regional trial court.

For a better appreciation of the Oakwood incident, let us review the events of those fateful days in July. According to one report, the mutineers plotted to seize power on August 2, but for fear of imminent arrest by the authorities, action was moved up a few days to July 27. Almost 2,000 troops were to be mobilized for the coup attempt, forming 17 task forces with military and civilian objectives, ranging from Malacañang Palace and Camp Aguinaldo to TV network GMA-7 and radio station dzRH.

The Magdalo group, composed of junior officers and enlisted men tasked to occupy the Oakwood Residential Tower in Makati City, was to be joined by a civilian component that would replicate a people power demonstration, triggering similar uprisings in other locations. After a standoff of some 20 hours, the group with no visible public support emerging, surrendered to AFP units loyal to the government.

In the aftermath, several prominent civilians were arrested for alleged complicity in the uprising. A charge of rebellion and illegal possession of firearms was filed against former President Estrada's mistress, Laarni Enriquez. It claimed that rebel soldiers had used a condominium unit in Mandaluyong City belonging to Enriquez, as one of their staging points. Enriquez was charged along with engineer Romy Escalona, whose firm reportedly constructed the townhouse.

Another prominent personality arrested was former deputy executive secretary Ramon "Eki" Cardenas. In an interview over GMA-7's "Unang Balita," National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo Wycoco said that certain fixtures in the house of Cardenas matched those seen on films taken by the renegade soldiers themselves.

Of course, the most prominent of those charged in connection with the incident was former Sen. Gregorio Honasan. Interior Secretary Joey Lina was quoted as saying: "Government investigators have already collated enough evidence to pin down Senator Honasan and his cohorts." He added that the real intention of the rebels was to overthrow the government and not just to express grievances. Honasan denied all the allegations, charging that politics was behind the accusations.

In an interesting episode a week after the most serious challenge to the government was put down, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo speaking before Asean finance ministers gathered in Manila said: "The resurgence of mutinies can be traced in part to a reluctance to enforce justice against military adventurism." Her remarks did not sit well with former President Fidel V Ramos who felt alluded to. Ramos reacted by saying that Malacañang had no one to blame but itself for widespread grumbling among junior officers.

So now we have punished the soldiers involved in the Oakwood mutiny while the government continues to press charges against the junior officers who led them.

But how about their civilian benefactors and co-plotters? Those who provided logistical support like communication equipment, staging areas or even just the simple red armbands which were used for identification during the Oakwood takeover? People want to know if the government is just as resolute in running after civilian conspirators as it is in prosecuting military offenders. Otherwise a double standard of justice may emerge—one for soldiers, another for civilians.

* * *

One of the underlying causes of the mutiny was the lack of a credible and responsive mechanism which could address the many concerns of our soldiers. To a certain extent, the chain of command was not functioning adequately or aggressively enough to satisfy the yearnings of idealistic young officers who felt that corruption was slowly eroding faith in the organization. At worst, the chain of command was looked upon with suspicion and mistrust since senior officers appeared to be part of the problem. The Feliciano Commission concluded that the complaints of the mutineers were justified and, if not properly addressed, could result in the collapse of the Armed Forces.

Visiting the 'sosy' market

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I HAVE Marc Calo Medina to thank, for bringing me to the Salcedo Community Market, better known among Metro Manilans as the "weekend market," with a reputation for being the most "sosy" of all *palengkes* you could ever hope to visit.

Upon entering the market and espying the stalls in orderly queues, my daughter exclaimed: "Reminds me of New York!" And indeed, as Marc disclosed, the organizers had hoped to emulate the weekend farmers' markets in Manhattan as well as the city's street fairs and bazaars, one of which my daughter and I happened to stumble upon one summer's day in Manhattan's upper West Side.

Located in Makati, in the carpark bordered by Leviste, Tordesillas, Salcedo and Toledo Streets, the Salcedo Community Market, says Marc, began just over a year ago as a project of Barangay Bel-Air under its dynamic chair, Nene Lichauco. "We just wanted a venue for all of us neighbors to meet each other regularly," says Marc. Indeed, the weekend market, which opens every Saturday starting 7 a.m. and closes at 2 p.m., has drawn families not just from the surrounding villages and the condominiums that ring the area, but even those from more distant locales.

Actually, Marc had issued his invitation to visit the market soon after my column on "*halo-halo*" came out in late April. The biggest draw was the glass of *halo-halo*, but a version native to his hometown of Arayat, Pampanga, that Marc promised would be waiting for me at the market. Many Saturdays came and went and, for one reason or another, mainly my slothful nature, I failed to make it to Salcedo. But, being a sucker for *halo-halo*, even one for which you have to drive across the metropolis, I managed to drag the hubby and the daughter there yesterday morning and roped two cousins into the excursion as well.

* * *

WELL, was the *halo-halo* worth it? Would I be writing about it if it weren't?

The Arayat version of *halo-halo*, "very simple but very sumptuous and rich," as Marc describes it, uses a mix of just a few ingredients: sweet beans ground to a sticky brown paste, sweetened carabao's milk, sweet corn and, best of all, *pastillas* balls also made from carabao's milk. Marc says the making of *halo-halo* this way is an "old Arayat tradition" with many families laying claim to having the "original" recipe.

Proceeds from the sales will be used for the needs of the altar boys in the Arayat parish. (Look for a banner that proclaims "Knights of the Blessed Sacrament" to spot them.) To raise funds for the knights' *sotanas* and tuition this school year, the booth sells, aside from the *halo-halo*, special *yemas* with *dayap*, *pastillas de leche* made from carabao milk, *balo-balo* and *buro* made by Marc's father's cook in the old house in Arayat, and old-fashioned *ensaimadas* (as big as a saucer!) from his lola's recipe that, he says, are selling so well they're sold out by 10 a.m. When I arrived, Marc rushed to the booth to reserve the last piece of ensaimada for me, it's that popular!

* * *

ASIDE from the Pampangueño specialties, also to be found in the weekend market are food items from Bacolod, Bulacan, Batangas, Laguna and Dumageuete.

With my cousins Millie and Rose Braganza joining us, we decided to make a picnic lunch out of our outing. Fortunately, the market is a wonderland of gourmet cooked food, much of it prepared in the kitchens of Makati families. Setting out to find victuals for lunch, we managed to gather enough home-made food for a feast: black *paella* spooned from a huge *paellera* into plastic containers, with a lemon slice on the side; grilled fresh *hito*; *pritchon* rolled in egg *lumpia* wrapper; fresh lumpia from Bacolod; *embotido sa dahon* from Lipa, Batangas; Thai spring rolls; and *pancit* Malabon.

With shaded eating areas, and a drink station that sells ice-cold canned drinks and bottled water (there's also a wine stall), lunching at the weekend market isn't a problem at all. The noontime heat, though, is enough to drive residents of nearby condos back to their cool air-conditioned cribs.

We also spotted other dishes that we passed for the moment but are enticing enough to warrant a return visit. Among the more promising items: Angus beef and roast lamb, Thai set meals with *bagoong* rice, Indonesian *sates*, Bacolod chicken *inasal*, home-cooked ham without any preservatives, *sushi*, *taho* and Chinese *lumpia*, and the ever-popular Ineng's barbecue, with an unending line of salivating customers.

* * *

OF COURSE, other items could also be found at the weekend market, not just cooked food.

There are organic produce, including sweet mangoes (Mila Abad's recommendation), vegetables, and red mountain rice; frozen seafood; pastries and native sweets, including the famous *putong ube*; ornamental plants and flowers, including gorgeous bonsai; handicraft including *nito* baskets and trays, and *buntal* hats and woven *bayong* from Quezon; varieties of dried fish including "less salt" *tuyo* from Batangas; and an endless variety of breads.

Another enjoyable activity while at the market is people-watching. I spotted Lizzie Zobel with her children and friends and incredibly enough, she said this was her first time to drop by the market (enticed by the ever-wily Marc) because her family usually goes out-of-town on weekends. Nelson Navarro, who has a condominium within just walking distance from the market, was also there earlier, said Marc. I bumped into former INQUIRER reporter Susan de Guzman and spotted Cheche Lazaro strolling along with husband Del. There were also a number of expat families and even two foreign men, one of whom sported dreadlocks, backpack tourists to judge from their unkempt appearance.

We may not be to the "sosy" set born, but nothing can stop us from patronizing their wonderful weekend market!

A future worth fighting for

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

ONCE again we find ourselves at a crossroad. We don't know where to turn, but we have a strong sense that we must alter course if we are to survive and grow as a nation. We are convinced that if we allow our current crop of politicians to continue governing the country, we are doomed to go around in circles. We have a vague idea of the kind of leaders we need: they must be firm, inspiring and trustworthy. But we are not sure who among our remaining leaders we can still trust.

The degrading poverty of the majority of our people remains our most daunting problem. Our historic failure to solve it has meant the waste of so much human capital. It has broken the spirit of our young people, who, increasingly, are unable to look at their nation's heritage with pride, or to imagine investing their lives in its future. We search our minds and hearts for any explanation for this failure. And always we arrive at one conclusion—the lack of a visionary and selfless leadership.

This insight is basically correct, but it does not give a complete picture. It overlooks the fact that there have been leaders of great integrity and capability in every generation. It glosses over the system that actively co-opts or excludes the visionary rebels among them, usually portraying them as enemies or fools, and installing them as heroes when they are safely dead.

Even now, it is not difficult to find many good leaders at every level of our society. But in their youth, they are typically broken until they learn to bow to the imperatives of the system. Subdued, they often become its cynical apologists. So it is important, when we ask for new leaders, to remember to also ask for new structures, new values and new practices.

The routines and forms of government are probably the easiest to change. The change may be done by executive order, by legislation, or by constitutional revision. Far more resistant to change, however, are the basic structures that determine the distribution of wealth and power across society's classes and groups. The operation of these structures is carefully masked in everyday life, or explained away as an aspect of the natural order of things. Access to wealth is the most contested part of social life, the final object of all politics.

Shifting from presidential to a parliamentary system, or from a unitary to a federal government, is nothing more than cosmetic change unless there is also substantive alteration in the distribution of economic resources, and in the nature and basis of state power. The present system, to state the obvious, remains in the hands of a small oligarchy, whose chronic inability to develop a robust economy and alleviate mass poverty is at the root of its recurrent crisis.

The economy's weakness is visible in its almost total dependence on the remittances of overseas workers. The country's agricultural base, where the majority of our people still work and live, is a picture of stagnation and neglect. Manufacturing has progressively contracted over the years. The remaining vibrant sector, services, thrives mainly on the resources made available by our overseas workers.

But the most significant index of the present system's bankruptcy is the gigantic debt burden that successive administrations have passed on to the Filipino people. The debt service constitutes the single largest component of the national budget. The senselessness of this burden is best exemplified by the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant, a facility that Filipinos have been paying for since 1986 even if it has not produced a single kilowatt of electricity.

Our problem clearly is not just Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. It is the whole country's political leadership. It is not just corruption, patronage politics, or electoral fraud; or smuggling, jueteng and illegal logging. It is the entire system. It is not just the high population growth. It is the whole way of life that the poor have been forced to invent in order to deal with the pressures of unmitigated want.

We have not been lacking in people who tell us that the system itself must change as a precondition for solving our most pressing problems. However, it is doubtful if such people will ever be elected into office under the existing rules of the game. Yet ironically, the three extra-constitutional episodes in the nation's recent past—martial law in 1972, Edsa I in 1986, and Edsa II in 2001—have only nurtured in our people a distrust for political upheavals. This defensive conservatism is what is propping up the dysfunctional government of Ms Arroyo.

In the presidential elections of 2004, the upper and middle classes turned a blind eye to the massive cheating and gross misuse of public funds that attended the election of Ms Arroyo. They suspended their values and lowered their ideals in the belief that the alternative to her presidency could be worse. Their fear of chaos has made them politically quiescent.

I personally do not think that anyone needs to worry about a catastrophic breakdown of public order. What I find disturbing is the corrosive mood of surrender that is spreading among our people. Many are simply giving up and moving out. How to reverse this tide of demoralization is the challenge of leadership in our time. The country awaits leaders who can still mobilize trust, and instill hope in our people by offering them a roadmap to viable social reform and a vision of a future that is worth fighting for.

(Comments to public.lives@gmail.com)

Faith and myths

THE SAINT-MAKER himself will be made a saint. Benedict XVI has just announced, to the applause of everyone, the opening of the cause for John Paul II's beatification. This holy man will most probably be called John Paul the Great for the great good he did to mankind. Holiness, faith and fidelity have always been drivers of human achievement.

COMMENTARY

Raul Antonio A. Nidoy

Of course, some people do not see things this way. I still remember a mural in my college days, where students presented a time line of history. Science, arts and learning were in crescendo, except in one interlude when the Catholic faith allegedly cast its shadows during the Dark Age.

All that is now old hat—a myth dating back to the 18th century, thought up by the likes of Voltaire and drummed into our minds by Marxists and secularists.

It is an established fact, on the other hand, that the universities were born around the 12th century, under the aegis of the Catholic Church. It was the Church which stood as an oasis of learning during the "Barbarian Invasions." Drawing strength from Christianity and rich human milieu, a creative wind started to blow in the Late Middle Ages, then into the Renaissance and thereafter. Catholic artists like Dante, Raphael, Michaelangelo and Shakespeare brightened up the world. And in his Mona Lisa, Da Vinci gave us an exquisite image of Christian joy.

Historical research is now showing that the prodigious growth of science—biology, astronomy, medicine, and what have you—had its roots in 13th-century scientific method: observation, experimentation and quantification. And who formulated it? St. Thomas Aquinas, the Church's universal teacher. One of his disciples, Francisco de Vitoria, has been immortalized in a United Nations monument for laying down the principle of human rights. And thus he is a father of our modern democracy and economic growth.

In an age when Christianity is depicted as a myth, it is necessary to dismantle the myths that the secularists are spinning. A recent myth, for example, is that there was external lobbying at the conclave. It is true, of course, that the cardinals just elected somebody who was already chosen beforehand. But it was the Third Person, the Holy Spirit, who did the choosing. And this Person chose Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

Not an old-fashioned doctrinaire, our Pope Benedict XVI has a bold, penetrating mind which can diagnose the roots of our present disorder. "My father is always working," he once said quoting the Bible. "We should then let him enter and let him work. And so things are born which open to the future and renew mankind...This, for me, is a message of greatest importance."

"It is a message," he says, "that leads to overcoming what could be considered the great temptation of our times: the pretense that after the 'big bang' God retired from history." God the Clockmaker, in this pretense, left the universe on its own, leaving our lonely ego to be "carried about by every wind of doctrine."

And so the Pope points to the importance of "real contact with Him who created us, and works through us...This is holiness...'It is not for me,' we tend to think, 'It is too high a goal.' Holiness then becomes a thing reserved for some 'greats' whose images we see on the altars, and who are completely different from us ordinary sinners."

With a phrase he likes to repeat, he clarifies: "Holiness is becoming a friend of God, speaking with him as if speaking with a friend. It is letting the Other work, the Only One who can really make the world both good and happy." Our Pope loves to stress "absolute fidelity to the Church's faith," because "the person who is bound to God no longer has fear....and in its place is born the courage to respond to today's world."

Our world faces many challenges: terrorism, poverty, conflict. But all these are exacerbated in a Godless landscape where selfishness darkens our view. Thus we create worse evils: abortions, marriage breakups, drug addiction, an eroticized society. To solve these, we need God's light which we find in "The Catechism of the Catholic Church." This "sure norm for teaching the faith" shows us that the Holy Spirit, Love in Person, has a dream:

"The Church's first purpose is to be the sacrament of the inner union of men with God," and her "structure is totally ordered to the holiness of Christ's members." (775; 774)

Driven by this God-given purpose, John Paul II wrote "Novo Millennio Ineunte," (At the Beginning of the New Millennium), "a program for all times." And he placed holiness, "the fullness of the Christian life," as the Church's top priority, a counterproposal to "a life of mediocrity marked by a minimalist ethic and a shallow religiosity."

To reach this appealing end, the Holy See enjoins Christians to undergo "a training in holiness":

First, the art of prayer: dialoguing with our friend "until the heart truly 'falls in love.'" Second, going to confession, to let God enter the soul in grace. This is key. Third, attendance at Mass, where Christ gives us all our strength. Fourth, giving primacy to God's presence in the soul, so as not to fall into "doing for the sake of doing." Fifth, listening to God's word in catechesis, giving direction to our lives. Sixth, doing apostolate with "burning conviction...without ever hiding the most radical demands of the Gospel." For example: loving God with all our mind and the duty of "praying always," "uniting prayer to works and good works to prayer." (Lk 18:1; CCC 2742-5) Seventh, a "spirituality of communion" whereby we see and serve God in others, specially the poor. For this, the Church calls on Mary, "the radiant dawn."

It is the Catholic Church's purpose of seeking holiness that moves Pope Benedict XVI. It is this purpose that should move each member of the Church, whether he is a bishop, a priest, or a layperson.

It is time for all to take part in the dream and work boldly: If each one of the billion Catholics would work as one team against our Church's problems (Benedict XVI refers to ignorance of the faith, interior emptiness, the relativists' denial of truth, the secularists' obstruction of God) and follow faithfully the voice of the good shepherd in moving toward our first purpose of becoming saints—first things, first!—then the power of Christianity, the unlimited power of the "Person" whose divine beauty surpasses the imaginings of any myth, will unfold in all its brilliance.

Raul Antonio A. Nidoy has been the executive director of Paref-Southridge School for 14 years. He holds a doctorate in Theology from the University of Navarre and a major in History from University of the Philippines.

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Trafficking in women and children

LURED by promises of high-paying jobs in cities here and abroad, at least 50 women and children from the provinces fall victim to human trafficking every day. Under Republic Act No. 9208, human trafficking includes "the elements of transporting of persons, with or without the victim's consent or knowledge, within or across national borders, by means of force or other forms of coercion, or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits, for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude or the removal or sale of organs."

Over the past few months, authorities have rescued scores of women, including minors, from a nightclub in Nueva Ecija, a massage parlor in Quezon City, a group in Parañaque matching Filipino women with Koreans for a fee, and a recruiting firm in Manila offering nonexistent jobs in Japan.

The arrest of two Australians in Bangued, Abra in March for running a cybersex den also highlights the growing problem of human trafficking in the age of the Internet.

Members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations now recognize human trafficking, particularly women and children, as an "emerging regional problem."

It is estimated that four million people are trafficked each year, giving criminal networks up to $7 billion in profits. Human trafficking is now considered the third most profitable illicit cross-border trade after drugs and firearms.

The illicit cross-border trade is the ugly of face of globalization

By Flerida Ruth P. Romero

A friend of mine, who is a single mother, was sobbing over the phone. "I can't go to Japan, after all," she cried. "Why?" I asked her for she had been excitedly telling me of her plans to apply with other girls as a dancer. "I was told that the Japanese government is stricter now. They have reduced the number of women they will accept as entertainers. And we have to have two years' training!" Her voice trailed off in a wail.

While I tried to comfort her, inside me I was happy for this turn of events. She could not understand that her recruiter may have been trying to exploit her, considering that she had been shelling out quite a lot of money in exchange for vague promises.

She could well be but another victim of the international crime of human trafficking whose glorious dreams at times end in tragedy. Such rampant practices across borders have focused media attention on human trafficking, particularly the exploitation of women and children for sex or forced labor. Committed mostly by transnational organized crime groups, it is promoted by syndicates with the aim of amassing profit through illegal means.

Commodities

What is so odious in the trafficking of humans is that it not only reduces persons into mere commodities but also breeds such other crimes as those involving drugs, firearms, smuggling, illegal recruitment, and corruption of public officials. In white slavery cases, for example, methods of procuring women range from harmless and seemingly unrelated activities (like foreign training or internship, adoption, family tours, religious pilgrimage, cultural exchange and promotion, sports events, and escort service), to cultural (marriage matchmaking or selling of a woman by her family), economic (job promises by illegal recruiters), and criminal acts (abduction). In the process, the fundamental rights of the victims are violated.

These rights are all embodied in such international instruments as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and, the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Human trafficking is best understood against the background of poverty and "sexploitation."

Consumable imports

But at a higher level, the phenomenon of globalization has to be taken into account in understanding the full dimensions of the problem. More precisely, trafficking must also be analyzed in terms of the structural inequality between developing nations and the industrialized countries, which have made use of their weaker counterparts as sources of labor and sex commodities. The more affluent are placed in a position where they can demand women and children as part of their consumable imports from countries that are poorer.

What then commences as an internal problem escalates to full-blown globalization, with the poorer countries providing the merchandise and the industrialized nations acting as zealous consumers. This exploitation of women and children has been facilitated by modern information networks, the latest of which is the use of cyber communications to advertise and prostitute them.

What is alarming and causing countries to focus their sights on this global concern is its growing incidence. So rampant is the practice that former US State Secretary Colin Powell remarked: "It is incomprehensible that trafficking in human beings is taking place in the 21st century—incomprehensible but true. Trafficking leaves no land untouched, including our own."

In the United States, there are the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003, both of which provide the necessary tools to fight human trafficking within and beyond US soil. From figures released by the State Department, around 800,000 to 900,000 people are trafficked worldwide, including 18,000 to 20,000 in the United States alone. Most of these "human commodities" are women and children, who are forced, intimidated or tricked into sexual or labor exploitation.

Unfortunately, in the Philippines, there is a dearth of baseline data on the true state of human trafficking. According to Jean Enriquez, the reasons are, among others, "the underground nature of trafficking; the stigma placed on victims of sexual exploitation; the lack of a name for the problem at the community level and awareness of acts of trafficking as violations of human rights, thus, the low rate of reporting; and the same lack of awareness among many government agencies and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), thus, the few interventions and documentation of cases."

It is widely known, however, that among the countries and territories where Filipino women and children are abused and prostituted are Hong Kong, Malaysia, Japan, Korea, Nigeria, Cyprus, Greece, Germany, Italy, the United States and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

On cross-border trafficking, Japan is said to have the largest sex market for Asian women with over 150,000 non-Japanese women involved, mainly from the Philippines and Thailand.

It is estimated that foreign women's earnings in the sex industry account for one to three percent of Japan's gross national product, which equals the military budget. In Korea, the economic crisis in 1997 led to further feminization of migrant labor, and there has been an increase in the number of women who have entered the sex industry. The market for women targeted for "sexploitation" has immensely expanded due to websites and the Internet.

Those countries that are signatories to United Nations documents dealing with the fundamental rights of women and children are committed to enacting national legislation to implement the policies embodied therein. Let me cite the Philippines as an example. It took eight years of lobbying and intensive spadework on the proposed anti-trafficking bill for a nongovernmental organization, the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, to finally convince Congress to enact on May 26, 2003, Republic Act No. 9208 titled "An Act to Institute Policies to Eliminate Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, Establishing the Necessary Institutional Mechanisms for the Protection and Support of Trafficked Persons, Providing Penalties for its Violations, and for Other Purposes."

Profiting from several attempts of the international human rights community to define and criminalize the act, it was able to formulate a comprehensive definition in its Section 3 (a) of "trafficking in persons" which included the elements of transporting of persons, with or without the victim's consent or knowledge, within or across national borders, by means of force or other forms of coercion, or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits, for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude or the removal or sale of organs.

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child, meaning a person below 18 years of age, for the purpose of exploitation is also considered "trafficking in persons" even if it does not involve any of the means cited in the preceding paragraph. When the offender is an ascendant, parent, sibling, guardian or a person who exercises authority over the trafficked person, the offense becomes "qualified trafficking" punishable by the higher penalty of life imprisonment and a fine of not less than P2 million but not more than P5 million.

In the case of nations, like the United States, which are not signatories to these international instruments, the provisions are not binding. What could only motivate them to take measures to fight human trafficking, for instance, are their own internal commitment to human rights and pressures from the international community, which, more often than not, are rather weak.

Syndicates earn $7 billion

Certain scholars have attributed the lack of prosecution of traffickers in the United States to institutional attitudes such as the prevailing idea that human rights violations occur only in other countries and there is a perceived reluctance to accept scrutiny on issues which it considers to be within its domestic purview.

Despite worldwide acknowledgment that human trafficking requires transnational solutions and global cooperation, the stark reality is that an estimated four million human beings, women and men, are trafficked each year, earning profits for the criminal networks of up to $7 billion annually. For one thing, trafficking, while rooted in poverty, implicates not only economic considerations but also civil, political, social and cultural rights. To illustrate, such stereotypes in our cultures have to be abolished that regard women and girls as little more than commodities to be marketed for gain, especially since the social and cultural patterns perpetuate the inferior status of women to men.

Then countries that are parties signatory to the relevant UN instruments dealing with fundamental rights of women and children have to ensure that the pertinent legislation is in place; that there is sufficient political will on the part of their leaders, especially the Executive, to implement and enforce its provisions and finally that the Judiciary takes every opportunity to interpret the substantive provisions in accordance with the legislative intent.

Another obstacle to effecting a successful campaign against trafficking is the view of some administrative officers that the problem is related to immigration. They betray their biases and prejudices when they see that most of the people victimized come from marginalized sectors. Still others harbor the false notion that those forced into prostitution and forced labor have brought these upon themselves and have nobody else to blame.

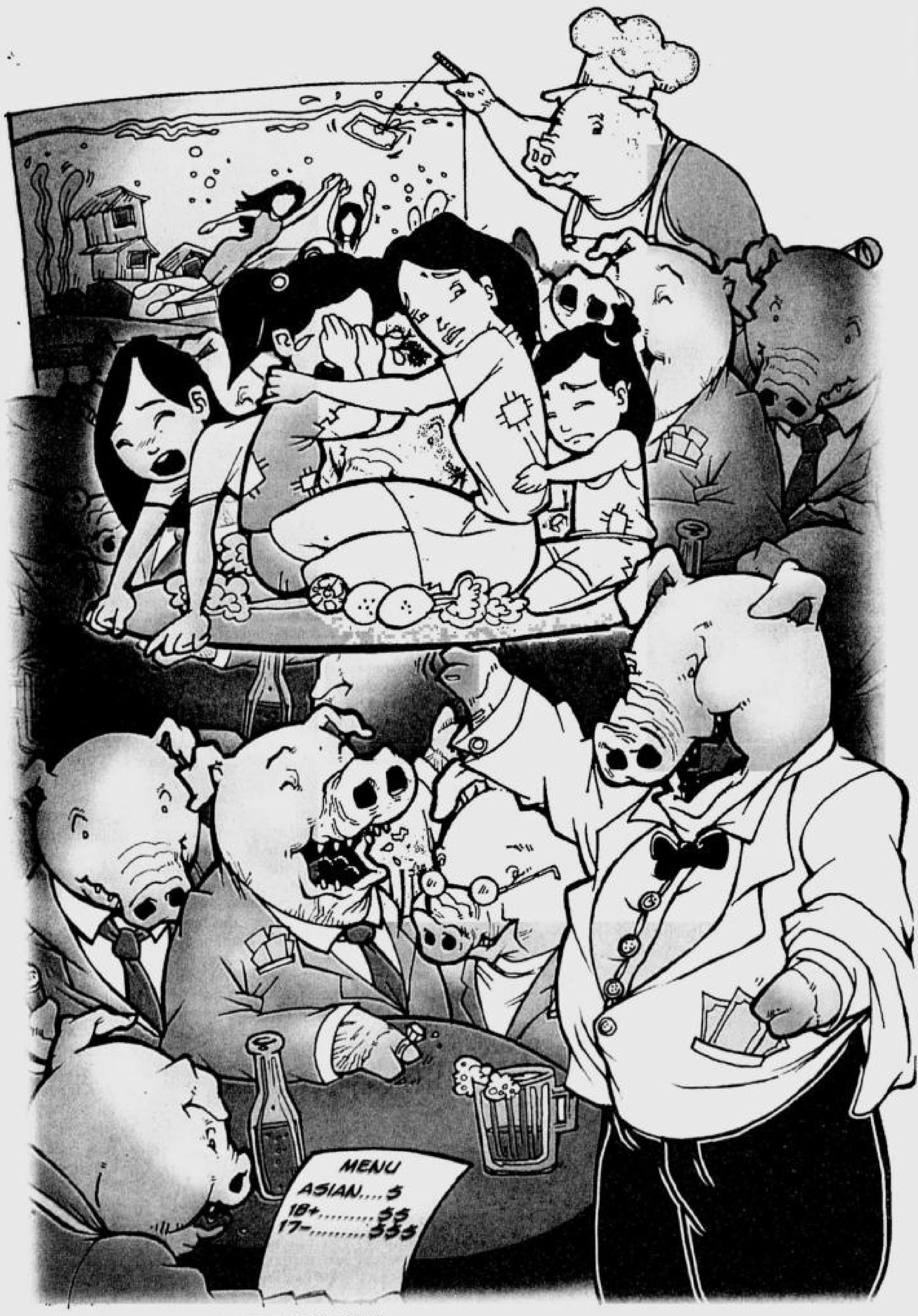
Apathy

While the victim may indeed be the visible factor in the equation, studies show that there are several actors at the transnational level who contribute and aggravate the problem such as the recruiter, pimp, conniving airport officials, immigration officials, establishment owners in destination countries, buyers, governments that consider overseas migration as primary employment strategy and governments that earn from the sex industry.

On the other hand, enforcement mechanisms are either inadequate or ineffective due to apathy, lack of political will and adverse but powerful economic and social forces. Both treaty law and the UN Charter-based human rights provisions have opened the door for advocates to press for the implementation of the enforcement remedies but NGOs have not found much use for these.

Given that human trafficking which is spawned by the greed of individuals, mostly syndicates, operating at transnational levels and the need for a determined effort on the part of government and international agencies to confront this problem that is aggravated by deeply rooted cultural patterns, it will take more than just laws to stamp out this Hydra-headed monstrosity.

(Romero is a judge at the International Labor Organization Administrative Tribunal [Geneva], president of the Asian Development Bank Administrative Tribunal [Manila], and retired senior associate justice of the Supreme Court.)



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Tobacco to replace 'grass' in Benguet

ITOGON, Benguet—The provincial government is seriously considering a change of smoke.

Gov. Borromeo Melchor said provincial officials are considering growing tobacco in areas where marijuana plantations used to thrive.

"If the soil and weather are conducive for tobacco growing, we would surely switch. Unlike marijuana, we already have a ready market," he said.

Melchor was guest speaker during the graduation of the 1st Philippine Upland Tobacco Training Program set up by the National Tobacco Administration and Trans Manila Inc. (TMI).

Fifty farmers from Tuba and Itogon towns in Benguet, as well as upland areas in La Union, attended the five-month training.

Itogon Mayor Mario Godio said the introduction of Virginia tobacco in his town was very important because of the financial setback caused by the withdrawal of mining companies in Itogon, the base of the country's oldest mining firms.

"We have 85 percent unemployment rate in Itogon. Maybe because small-scale miners are also considered part of the underground economy," he said.

Tobacco appearance

He said 10 hectares in Barangays Tinongdan, Dalupirip and Poblacion in Itogon are growing Virginia tobacco. Other upland areas in Benguet already growing Virginia tobacco are Barangays Tabaan Norte and Sur in Tuba.

Godio said some of the sites identified as ideal for tobacco growing in his town used to grow marijuana.

Melchor said because of vegetable importation and bad roads, the switch to tobacco cultivation is not farfetched.

He said only 7,000 hectares of the 25,000 irrigated lands in Benguet have sufficient irrigation.

"Tobacco needs less water," said Melchor, a former Cordillera director of the National Irrigation Administration.

Swift switch

He said the switch from marijuana or vegetable planting to tobacco may not take too long. "Technology transfer is already there," he said.

NTA Administrator Carlitos Encarnacion said Tabaan Norte in Tuba has been cultivating Virginia tobacco for three years now.

"We have proven that we can grow excellent tobacco in upland Benguet. And if the soil and weather are similar [in the former marijuana growing areas], then we can also grow them there," he said.

TMI, the official tobacco supplier of Philip Morris Philippines Inc., said cooler and humid areas are conducive to quality tobacco needed by PMMI.

"We are not only looking at this as a one-to-five-year deal but as a long-term investment. We look at this as our way of looking forward," Chris Nelson, PMMI managing director, said.

The training program would teach farmers the early planting technology (EPT) and other techniques to grow better tobacco, he said.

EPT means that Virginia tobacco is grown during the cooler months unlike the traditional method so plants will be less stressed and therefore healthier.

TMI has committed to buy all tobacco leaves grown and cured in upland Benguet. *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Another Bayan Muna leader slain; militia member gunned down

NAGA CITY—Two persons, a leader of a militant party-list group and a member of a local militia, were killed in two separate attacks Thursday in the towns of Bula and Pamplona in Camarines Sur province.

At about 8:20 a.m., four suspected members of the communist New People's Army (NPA) shot dead a certain Rafael Dasinio while he took his breakfast at home in Barangay Paroyroyon, Bula.

Col. Serafin Raymundo, Army spokesperson here, identified Dasinio yesterday as a member of the Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) based in the village of Palsong in the same town.

Raymundo condemned the attack as a "dastardly act of communist terrorists" to project strength amid what he claimed as the weakening of the "terrorist group."

About 11 hours later, a Bayan Muna municipal coordinator in Camarines Sur was also killed by unidentified armed men in Barangay Tambo, Pamplona.

Eric Torrecampo, Bayan Muna provincial coordinator, identified the victim as Eddie Dimaano, 49. He said the killers, wearing black bonnets, fled after the shooting.

Land feud

But Torrecampo said their group suspected that the motive of the killing was related to a land row.

He said the victim was a leader of a group of farmers fighting for land ownership in one of the haciendas in the province.

Lolita Dimaano, 47, said she was walking to the sala from the kitchen at around 7 p.m. on Thursday when she heard gunshots coming from behind her.

Lolita said she saw her husband fall in the kitchen, bloodied and gasping for breath, and before she could even compose herself from the shock, her husband was already dead.

She said police arrived at about 9 p.m. and found seven gunshot wounds in the body of Dimaano believed to be from an M-16 rifle.

Black bonnets

Lolita said she saw the assailant flee with two others. All three wore black bonnets.

As the attacks from rebels and suspected military men continued, the verbal offensives went on as well.

Supt. Frank Peñaflor Jr., Catanduanes police director, tagged the NPA as the protector of a syndicate behind illegal logging in the province.

Peñaflor told the INQUIRER through a text message that the communist rebels play a big role in illegal logging because they give the go-signal when to cut the trees in exchange for money.

On Thursday, three truckloads of abandoned logs of different types, worth about P115,000, were recovered in the boundaries of Barangay Sabloyon and Filaviga in Caramoan town during an operation conducted by the provincial police, City Environment and Natural Resources Office and the Philippine Army. *Juan Escandor Jr. and Michael B. Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Cavite labor group wants no-strike policy scrapped

CALAMBA CITY—A labor federation in Cavite opposed the covenant signing between government, business and labor groups to promote a strike-free Cavite as a brazen disregard of workers' right to strike.

The independent Solidarity of Cavite Workers (SCW) cast doubts on the real purpose of the agreement.

In a statement sent to the INQUIRER, Marlene Gonzales, SCW chair, said a strike-free Cavite is impossible to attain as the country is besieged by economic crisis.

"Going against workers' (basic right) to strike is a disgrace for someone holding the highest position in the provincial government," said Gonzales.

During the covenant signing held on Tuesday, Cavite Gov. Ireneo Maliksi said the covenant would not violate labor's right to strike.

"I, myself, have never issued a no-strike policy in Cavite. I am a firm believer of trade unionism. But it should not be an obstacle to progress," Maliksi said during the event.

Maliksi said industrial peace should reign in the province for it to attain progress and for more jobs to be created.

The covenant, he said during its signing, would attract more investors and project the province as an ideal site for more factories.

Gonzales said Maliksi had been promoting a no-strike policy since he assumed office in 2001. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

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Ms. Tessa Prieto-Valdez (lying), Columnist and TV Personality and Virgilio Castro, M.D., FPOGS, noted perinatologist and O.B.-Gyne Sonologist, have joined Luthgardo H. Acosta, M.D. FPCR and Rodney L. Fernan, M.D. FPCR, Chief Radiologist (standing at the back from left to right) to highlight Fortmed recent acquisition of GE Voluson 730, the public can now avail of their fetal 3-D and 4-D images. The machine is so versatile that it encompasses other medical discipline for its various application.

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Mishap victim's kin to sue hospital execs

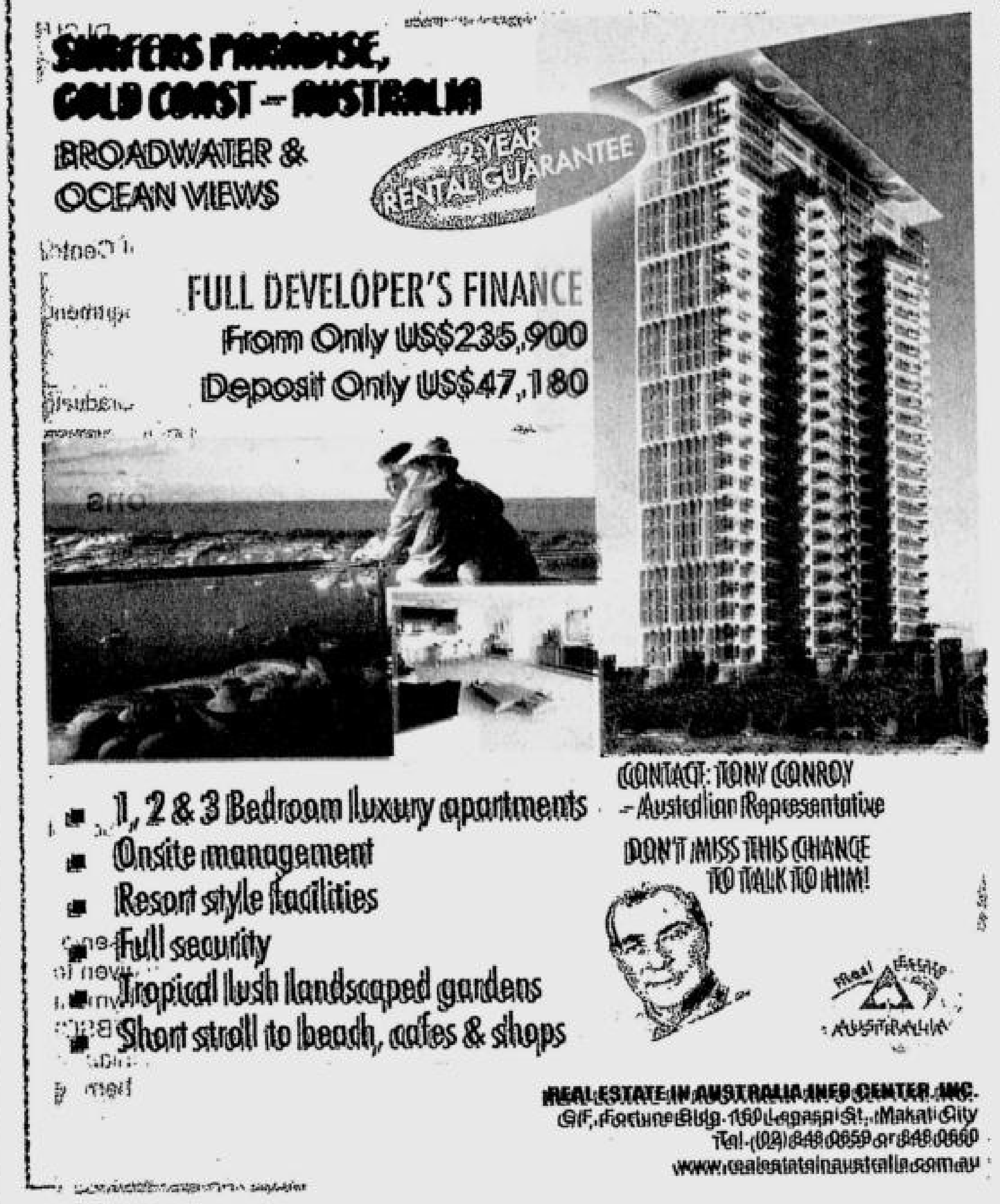
STA. CRUZ, Laguna—The parents of the Cavite girl, who was a victim of a hit-and-run vehicle in Calauan town on May 19 and who later died after being allegedly rejected for treatment by a hospital here, said they would sue the hospital authorities for the death of their daughter.

Victim Gena Pabun's parents aired their complaints to the media against the Laguna Provincial Hospital (LPH), which allegedly refused treatment to their dying daughter.

Pabun was hit by an unidentified vehicle on Thursday in Barangay Dayap, Calauan, which resulted in her death. Investigation showed that immediately after the accident, barangay officials led by chair Roberto Ramilo brought the victim to the LPH, which is also called the Pagamutan Pangmasa ng Laguna, for immediate medical treatment but was allegedly refused.

A hospital authority has appeared on TV to explain that Pabun was not admitted because no relative was at hand to take care of the patient.

Gov. Teresita Lazaro said she would call for an investigation. *Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*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PMA cadets receive training on how to read contour maps during a map reading exercise at Fort del Pilar, the PMA headquarters, in Baguio City.

Davao City traders join water rate hike protests

DAVAO CITY—Opposition to the proposed water rate increase sought by the Davao City Water District (DCWD) is growing by the day, this time with the business sector branding it unreasonable and excessive.

Earlier, Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, other city officials, consumers and militant groups said the 60-percent increase that the utility firm would implement starting this year would only worsen the economic difficulty faced by the poor.

Currently, households are billed P104 per cubic meter of water.

Starting this year, DCWD would collect an additional 30 percent, 20 percent next year and 10 percent in 2007.

The Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. (DCCCII) recently added a voice to the opposition saying that the water rate increase would also hurt businesses.

Survey

In a resolution, which was signed by DCCCII president Bienvenido Carriaga on May 18, the business group said its opposition was based on the results of a survey among its members.

"The 60 percent water rate hike approved by the DCWD Board will translate to the significant increase in these companies' overhead expenses, which they could not just pass on as additional cost to their costumers," the resolution said.

Bad effects

DCCCII also warned that the increase will mean increased production cost, which may eventually cause retrenchments, unemployment or even business closures.

"The DCCCII believes that there could be other solutions… such as adopting cost-cutting measures on its operations and above-normal benefits accorded to its top executives," it said.

The resolution said considering the prevailing economic condition in the city and the inflation rate increase in the region, the increase should be reduced to the very minimum.

Councilor Danilo Dayanghirang said DCWD should roll back water rates instead of raising them because figures would show that it has been earning so much to cover its operations and future expansion projects.

"I appeal to the DCWD to be realistic and live up to their vision, mission and corporate philosophy," Dayanghirang said.

He said that DCWD posted a record high net income of P148 million in 2003, P144 million in 2002, P99 million in 2001 and P75 million in 2000.

"The financial records show that it can easily absorb the increases in power and other company expenditures," he said.

Correct figures

DCWD spokesperson Dominador Lopez said Dayanghirang may be right in his figures but the councilor failed to cite DCWD's financial status for late 2004 and the first quarter of 2005.

"We really need this water rate increase because we have been losing lately due to the zooming prices of almost everything," he said.

Lopez said the opposition by thousands of consumers to the increase could not prevent the DCWD from collecting additional charges. *Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Tension grips Zambo town over mayoral row standoff

PAGADIAN CITY—Tension is building up in Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur as the incumbent mayor refused to step down and give way to his rival, who was declared by a regional trial court here as the "true choice of the people."

Mayor Abubakar Afdal-Nandang instead ordered his followers to put a barricade, made up of a wire fence, five dump trucks and a grader, to dissuade his rival Uray Mamaludin from entering the municipal hall.

Afdal and an undetermined number of followers have also encamped themselves inside the municipal hall since Thursday, when reports came that Mamaludin was set to take over.

Mamaludin had petitioned the regional trial court here for a judicial recount claiming that Afdal's proclamation in last year's elections was due to massive cheating.

Afdal, through his lawyers, maintained that as an opposition candidate, he could not have possibly cheated Mamaludin, then incumbent mayor.

He said votes were canvassed inside the headquarters of the 1st Infantry Division shortly after the May elections so declaring him a cheat also means that the military had connived with him to break the law.

During Monday's final hearing of the petition, Judge Reinerio Ramas ruled in favor of Mamaludin saying: "The true choice of the electorate is protestant Uray Marcaban Mamaludin."

It said Mamaludin obtained a total vote of 7,759 while Afdal had 6,689 votes.

Afdal's lawyers questioned the figure by insisting that previous recounts at the same court showed their client winning by at least 100 votes.

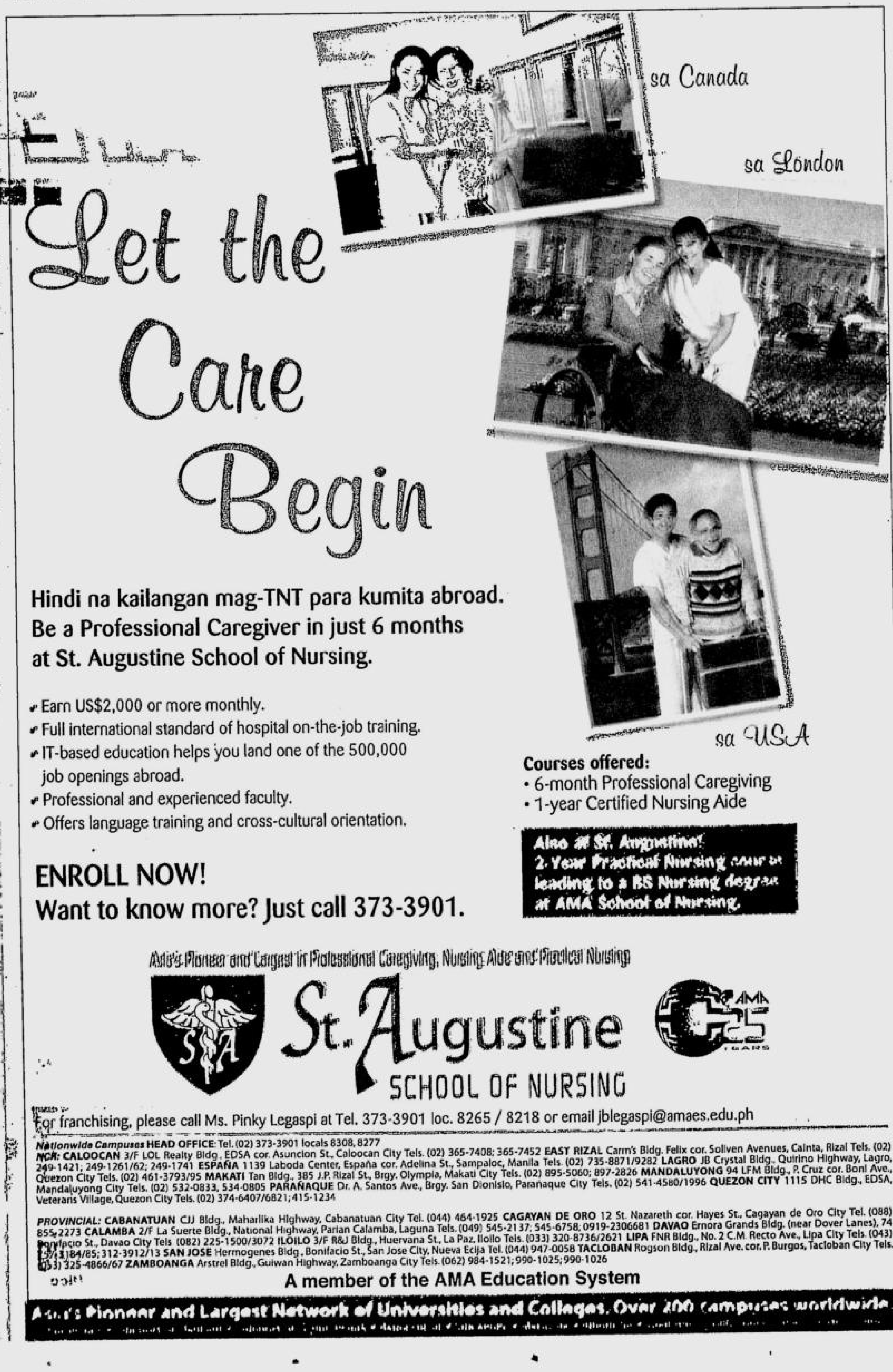
"So where did my votes go?" Afdal said.

He said he would not bow to the court's decision because he was the declared winner in 2004 and that only the Commission on Elections and the Supreme Court can unseat him.

Afdal also questioned the court's decision to "hastily" swear Mamaludin into office saying his lawyers were not given the chance to contest the proceeding.

Mamaludin took her oath of office before Ramas on Thursday.

On Friday afternoon, the military escorted Mamaludin not to the municipal hall to assume the mayorship but to the barangay hall of Lantian village. *Michael F. Sarcauga, PDI Mindanao Bureau*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ROUNDUP

Old bomb found

CAMP GEN. ALEJO SANTOS, Bulacan—Police recovered a World War II-vintage bomb and mortar shells in Doña Remedios Trinidad town recently. Chief Insp. Sabino Vengco, chief of the Bulacan police Special Weapons and Tactics Team, said the 250-lb bomb found near the Angat reservoir in Doña Remedios Trinidad could still explode because its contents and fuse were intact.

Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

'Most dangerous man'

OZAMIZ CITY—A man tagged as Misamis Occidental's "most dangerous" was tagged by relatives of three militiamen slain in an April 2003 ambush in Tangub City as the leader of the group that attacked the victims. Carlito Manos, tagged behind a string of murders here, was recently charged with the death of militiamen Benedicto Vick, Rufino Yobero and Jenoel Sarajena. Misamis Occidental Gov. Loreto Ocampos said efforts to prosecute Manos failed because the victims' families refused to cooperate, "understandably because of fear."

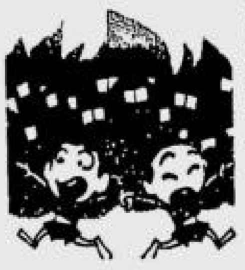
Ryan D. Rosauro, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Salesgirl found dead

ROXAS CITY—A bakeshop salesgirl was found dead on the road to Sitio Bato, Barangay Banica here early Thursday morning in what the police suspected to be random violence committed by drug addicts. The body of Liza Diasin, 21, an employee of Julie's Bakeshop, was found with multiple stab wounds. Police said Diasin had a head fracture and bruises around her neck, indicating that she was strangled. Supt. Rene Aspera, Roxas police director, said they were searching for two young men whom a witness said he saw dragging Diasin to a tricycle at about 3:45 a.m. Diasin lived only some 50 meters from the bakeshop and reports to work at 4 a.m. every day.

Felipe V. Celino, PDI Visayas Bureau

Child killed in fire



PAGSANJAN, Laguna—A fire that was allegedly started by children in a barangay here burned five houses, killed one of the children and injured five others on May 12. Police identified the dead child as 3-year-old Larysa M. Fernandez of Barangay Maulawin here. Police said the fire started from the house of Fernandez. Prior to the fire, three of the children, including Larysa, were playing make-believe kitchen work using several pieces of firewood. Larysa was trapped inside the house.

Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Agri-tourism database

CITY OF CALAPAN—An agricultural and tourism database management system in Oriental Mindoro will be put up for a more comprehensive development plan through a training this year on "Statistics for Local Development of Agriculture and Tourism." Local development planners, agriculture and tourism officers of the province will participate in the training. The training is part of the technical assistance for Mimaropa (Mindoro-Marinduque-Romblon-Palawan) Highway of the National Economic and Development Authority.

Madonna T. Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

2 wanted men nabbed

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—The Mimaropa police on Wednesday presented two of the most wanted criminals in Romblon, who were arrested in separate operations in Metro Manila early this week. Chief Supt. Delfin Genio, Mimaropa police director, identified those arrested as Reynaldo Razo, 26; of Barangay Poblacion, San Fernando, Romblon; and Celso Mendoza, 35, of Barangay Magtiwa, San Fernando, Romblon. Genio said Razo was facing charges of multiple rape and had a P300,000 reward for his capture. Razo was arrested in Valenzuela City on Monday while Mendoza was arrested Tuesday in Taguig after seven years in hiding. He had a P400,000-reward for his arrest.

Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

School building burned

SINILOAN, Laguna—Fire destroyed a three-classroom school building in this town on May 12. The Siniloan Bureau of Fire Protection said the fire was caused by faulty electrical wiring. Burned was the Siniloan Public School on De Leon Street, Barangay Acevida.

Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Woman needs help

SINILOAN, Laguna—Lourdes Eleria, 54, a vendor earning only about P100 daily, accidentally slipped on March 15 and fractured her knee. She now needs to undergo surgery and is appealing for support from donors. She has no money to buy a metal brace for her fractured knee. Eleria cannot stand for three months now. When she goes for check-up, she needs to lie on a long bench for her legs to stay stretched while men carry her to a nearby clinic. Eleria's second husband, Sergio, 64, is also sickly while two of their four sons barely earn as fishermen. Eleria lives on General Luna Street, Siniloan, Laguna and can be reached through neighbor, Maan de los Reyes-Leopando, with phone no. 09155436193.

9 nabbed for drugs

STA. CRUZ, Laguna—Police arrested nine suspects involved in illegal drugs from May 8 to 14. The suspects were caught in possession of shabu and drug paraphernalia or in the act of using the drug. Police said the confiscated drugs are now being examined in the Southern Tagalog police crime laboratory while cases have been prepared for filing in courts against the suspects in the municipalities where they were detained.

Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Ilocos consumers get rest from power rates

LAOAG CITY—Power consumers in the province expect a welcome respite in their power bills as the Energy Regulation Commission has approved a P0.1768 per kWh reduction in electricity rates for residential users.

In a decision dated March 18, the ERC has prescribed final rate reduction schedules for consumers of the Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative (Inec) that will take effect immediately upon Inec's receipt of the order. The ERC released the order on April 25.

The power rate cut came on the heels of an impending rebate that Inec consumers were supposedly entitled to should the ERC affirm an investigation showing that Inec had imposed excess charges on its consumers.

The commission, however, has not yet ruled on the finding that Inec has overcharged its consumers by P120 million for an eight-year period since 1996.

Inquiry

The alleged overcharging was a result of an inquiry that the Ilocos Norte provincial board conducted on Inec's book of accounts early this year.

The ERC is reportedly reconciling its records with Inec's finance department to determine whether excess charges had been made.

Should the findings be confirmed, power users would be entitled to a rebate for eight years corresponding to the period that excess charges were made.

Based on the March 18 order, 105,372 residential users will get a P0.1768 reduction per kWh. Other users given reduced rates are small and large commercial customers, irrigation facilities, industrial and public buildings and streetlights.

The reduction is 10 centavos higher than the rate that ERC provisionally granted to Inec last year.

Inec applied for power rate cuts in January 2003 after the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (Psalm) assumed the cooperative's P1.06-billion loan from the National Electrification Administration.

The cooperative started implementing a provisional rate reduction for its consumers in April last year at P0.0739 per kWh after the Psalm initially condoned some P126 million from the cooperative's total loan.

Based on the ERC decision, Inec is required to refund its consumers an amount corresponding to the additional rate reduction since Inec's loan has been fully condoned.

The refund shall be credited to consumers' power bills covering future consumption for six months upon the implementation of the ERC decision.

Former Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Albano, Jr., now ERC chair, directed Inec to calculate the amount that will be refunded to its consumers in 15 days from receipt of the order.

No more discounts

Romillas Pascual, Inec's general manager, said that power users would no longer be entitled to a prompt payment discount beginning May.

"We have no other choice but to discontinue as well the discounts we have been providing to our end consumers," Pascual said.

He said the National Transmission Commission started removing the 3-percent discount for Inec in April, noting that Transco could no longer recover the discounts through increased sales volumes.

Inec has been receiving the prompt payment discount from Transco's predecessor, the National Power Corp.

Alan Ortiz, Transco president, said the transmission utility continued granting the discount despite the absence of a provision governing Transco's policy on rate administration. *Cristina Arzadon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

₱50-M fund allotted for forest project

DUMAGUETE CITY—The Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) is allocating some P50 million as initial funding for its "DBP Forest" project nationwide.

Jonathan Teves, DBP Dumaguete branch manager, said the project, which was launched in Bataan in April, is one way of demonstrating the bank's social responsibility.

Teves said "DBP Forest" envisions to develop downstream industries in the rural areas by supporting and encouraging the forestation of open areas through the planting of high value fruit trees and other useful species, like bamboo and *ilang-ilang* in partnership with local governments and other groups.

A bank's brochure of the project said DBP believed that improving the environment can be done by helping establish forests and prevent soil erosion, conserve water, provide habitat to wildlife and, more importantly, create rural livelihood opportunities.

Teves said the DBP has also decided to allocate a portion of its collection from processing fees of loan with an amount of P20 million and above to augment the money for the project because the initial funding might not be sufficient to cover the entire country.

Under DBP Forest, Teves said DBP would partner with local government units, people's organizations, state universities and colleges and other government agencies that have large forest areas under their management. *Romy G. Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau*

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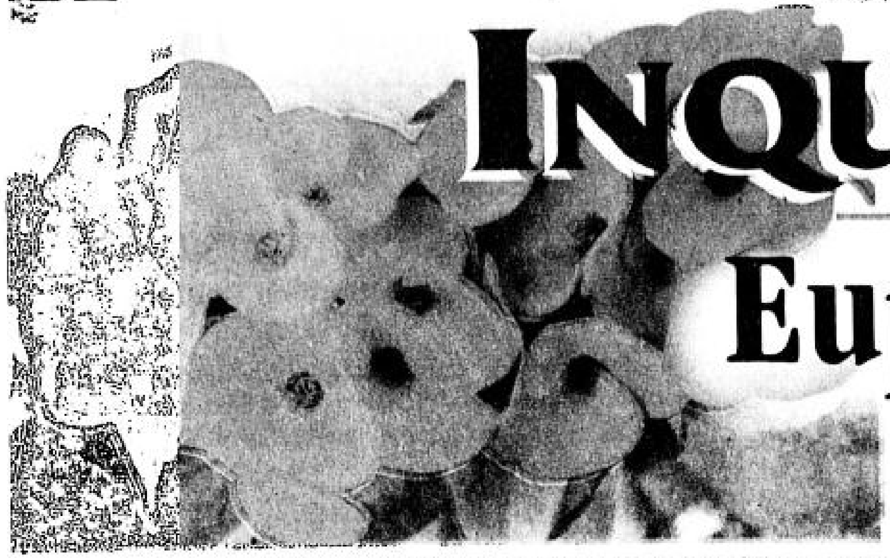
Euphoria over euphorbia



THE EUPHORBIA has become in demand because of its blooms.
COURTESY OF MAITUM INFORMATION OFFICE

By Aquiles Zonio
Maitum, Sarangani

> *Where flowers bloom, so does hope.*
>
> —Lady Bird Johnson

SOME men who engaged in euphorbia growing six years ago became the subject of cruel jokes. These days, those who used to taunt them are growers themselves.

Euphorbia millii hybrids are considered to be among the fabled "luck plants" of China and Southeast Asia. Commonly known as the "crown of thorns," because of their half-inch long thorns, the plants have become popular because of their large, showy blooms.

Euphorbia is an evergreen shrub with very thorny grooved stems and branches. The stems are purplish brown and can grow up to an average of two feet long, but can reach three feet in a warm climate.

Many varieties have varying sizes of flowers and colors from red to yellow. It blooms freely most parts of the year and normally becomes dormant in summer.

Other people propagate euphorbia because they are said to bring prosperity and fortune.

Local varieties that are in demand include orchids, mocca million, hotdog, siam, king, cluster, tri-color and diamond rose.

Each plant can be sold at P200 a piece. Fully grown ones cost P400 to P500 each, while other varieties are sold at P100 for three pieces.

Brisk sales

According to conservative estimates, euphorbia sales in Maitum vary from 3,000 to 4,000 plants a day. At an average price of P40 per plant, that's P120,000 to P160,000 per day.

Buyers from as far as Luzon and Visayas come to the town just to buy the plants. Some buyers export them.

No wonder, many residents have abandoned farming and turned to euphorbia growing. Unlike corn or rice farming, which takes four to five months to harvest, euphorbias are ready for selling in two to three months.

In Kiambing village, euphorbia growing has virtually become the bread and butter of most of its 264 residents. From there, the craze spread to the whole town.

Because of the surge in sales, even employees have started to engage in euphorbia growing. After office hours, they could be seen going around town, with children in tow, looking for varieties that are in demand.

Big difference

Gone are the days when one can see people playing "*tong-its*" (a card game) or exchanging gossips. Their spare time is now spent in euphorbia propagation.

The passion has fostered family closeness. All household members help nurture the plants in their backyard.

Cesar Cabrido claimed that euphorbia growing, which he began in 1999, saved his family from starvation.

When his farm and piggery suffered losses in 2001, Cabrido was about to ask his daughter to stop pursuing a nursing course. Euphorbia, in a way, saved her education.

In 2002, Cabrido was already earning P20,000 monthly from euphorbia growing alone. Now, he is earning at least P30,000 a month.

He encouraged his neighbors to grow the plants instead of relying mainly on farming.

Jo Sanchez recounted that her husband, at first, rebuked her, saying it was just a waste of time. Later, after realizing profits, the man himself became a euphorbia enthusiast.

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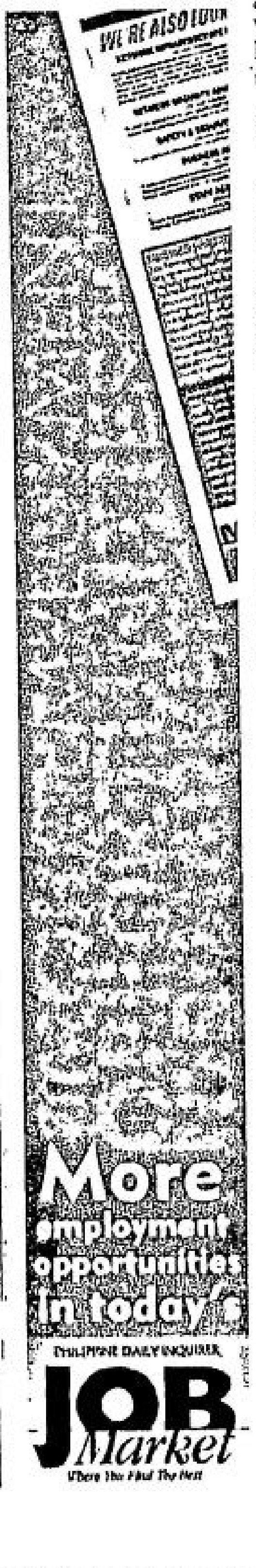

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LIVING LAKES ADVOCATES. President Arroyo poses with local and foreign delegates to the 10th Living Lakes Conference held recently in Tagaytay City. PAT CASTILLO/PCPO

Int'l conservationists ...

From page A1

ed 10th Living Lakes summit, which the country hosted this year, found the President not only charming and smart but "cool" as well.

Ms Arroyo early last week took time out from her busy schedule in Manila and traveled to the Taal Vista hotel here to address the annual conference of the prestigious 25-member network, best known for its "Save the Lakes of the World" program.

She was evidently in a very good mood during her brief stay here.

Summit participants interviewed by the INQUIRER said their impression of the President was "very positive." Like German lake expert Patrick Trotschler who claimed Ms Arroyo "looks more like a queen."

The project manager of the Lake Constance Foundation pointed out the "not-so-ordinary way your President carries herself, the way she sits, the way she walks—quite queenly, really."

"She's beautiful," noted Eleni Daroglou, head of the Society for the Protection of Nature and Ecodevelopment, the NGO-representative of Nestos Lake in Greece.

The President, who is 58, "could have been 45," according to Jorg Durr-Pucher, director of Global Nature Fund, the Germany-based environmental group that established the Living Lakes network in 1998.

"Despite her charming smile, you can still sense she's one tough lady," said Durr-Pucher, who also represented Lake Constance, one of the 25 full members of the network, in the conference.

Dr. Andrew Venter, head of South Africa's Wildlands Conservation Trust, called Ms Arroyo "small iron lady."

"Smart" and "strong leader" were the descriptions given by GNF president Marion Hammerl-Resch, also Lake Constance Foundation head.

She's cute, too

Prof. Shinji Ide of Japan's International Lake Environment Committee Foundation, the group behind Lake Biwa conservation efforts, and Roman Guzlak of the Polish Society of Wildlife Friends (Pro Natura), both thought the President was "cute."

"So it's true she is not tall, but she seems to be friendly," said Guzlak, who represented Poland's Milicz Ponds, another network member.

And "like most of the Filipinos I've met, she is very welcoming, very warm," remarked Ellen Zimmerman, Wildsight spokesperson and representative of Canada's Columbia River Wetlands, host of last year's Living Lakes summit.

Daroglou's 13-year-old son Fivos Jerrentrup, the youngest delegate, had the same observation.

"Your President didn't mind at all when we approached her during her visit. She's very accommodating," recalled the Greek teenager who presented Ms Arroyo with a bag of gifts, including a CD-ROM and calendar which both featured Nestos Lake.

Dr. Obiero Ong'ang'a, CEO of the Kenya-based Friends of Lake Victoria, considered their meeting with Ms Arroyo "amazing," "something special" and "unforgettable."

"In Africa, you'll be lucky if you could get close to your president by a kilometer. It's really a different story in that part of the world. We really appreciate your President's coming all the way from Manila just to join and confer with us, even for a brief moment," Ong'ang'a told the INQUIRER.

Human touch

Ms Arroyo "seems to have a human touch," observed GNF president Prof. Clark Aitken.

"I think she's one of those people in government who do not mind going out of their way to be able to properly engage with people," he said. "For me, that's admirable and impressive."

Alicia Cordova Lopez of Mexico's Sociedad Amigos del Lago de Chapala claimed Ms Arroyo "exudes a positive aura."

And "self-confidence," too, said Liu Meiying, one of three delegates from China's Poyang Lake, host of next year's Living Lakes conference.

Like most of their fellow conservationists, Murat Cevik of Turkey's Uluabat Lake and Larissa Batotsyrenova of Russia's Lake Baikal thought the President was "intelligent."

What impressed the Russian delegate the most was "the fact that you have a woman president. In my country, we've never had a woman holding the highest government post."

The President even gamely posed for what seemed like countless photos with both foreign and local summit participants, the tall Russian delegate pointed out.

Environment Secretary Michael Defensor earlier welcomed the Living Lakes delegates.

In her remarks, Ms Arroyo hailed the network for setting an "example for the nation which we can all be proud of" and for "working so diligently to make our Living Lakes program a success."

"Without your commitment and efforts our lakes will not be clean and productive," she said. "Your work benefits millions of people who rely on our lakes for both food and water and you deserve our thanks."

She said "the people of the Philippines are happy for [Living Lakes'] involvement in our country."

Laguna de Bay

She assured the delegates "our national development agenda places high priorities on conserving our environment. We can't progress as a nation if we neglect to protect our natural assets," like Laguna de Bay.

The President had earlier vowed to "take an active role in ensuring that the lake remains a living lake."

"We will do our best to bring back the glory of the lake, make it a productive lake for the people of Laguna, Rizal, Batangas, Cavite and Metro Manila, but more so as truly a living lake for all Filipinos," she said.

The tripartite CLEAR (Conservation of Laguna de Bay's Environment and Resources) had earlier pursued the lake's membership bid in Living Lakes.

CLEAR groups consumer giant Unilever Philippines, the nongovernment Society for Conservation of Philippine Wetlands and the DENR-attached Laguna Lake Development Authority.

The unique group's "work is divided by three while its output is times three," said Chito Macapagal, Unilever general manager for corporate development.

GNF had cited the tripartite arrangement as a "first in the history of Living Lakes" and a "very interesting model of how government, an NGO and big business can work together."

Laguna Lake's admission to the network in 2001 had elevated the polluted body of water to international status, said Unilever chair and CEO Howard Belton.

According to Ms Arroyo, LLDA might as well stand for Living Lakes Development Authority.

For his part, LLDA head Edgardo Manda said Laguna de Bay "needs the Living Lakes network in the partnership aimed at preserving this important body of water," which he said had become the "largest septic tank for human and industrial wastes from Metro Manila and surrounding areas."

Water source

The former Ninoy Aquino International Airport general manager reported that the lake was "being eyed as the next major source of potable water for the metropolis."

The summit "explored the role that communities play as responsible stewards of lake ecosystems in densely populated areas," said Amy Lecciones, SCPW project manager.

Unilever, which has been Living Lakes' global partner since 1998, not only contributes crucial funding to the network but also supports partnership projects with individual lakes and wetlands through its local companies.

"But more than funding, Unilever contributes its management expertise in bringing people together—local authorities, NGOs and other businesses and networks who may have much to offer as partners with a shared aim. Unilever's management skills can help to drive the necessary actions required to achieve the best solutions to improve lake conditions," Belton also said.

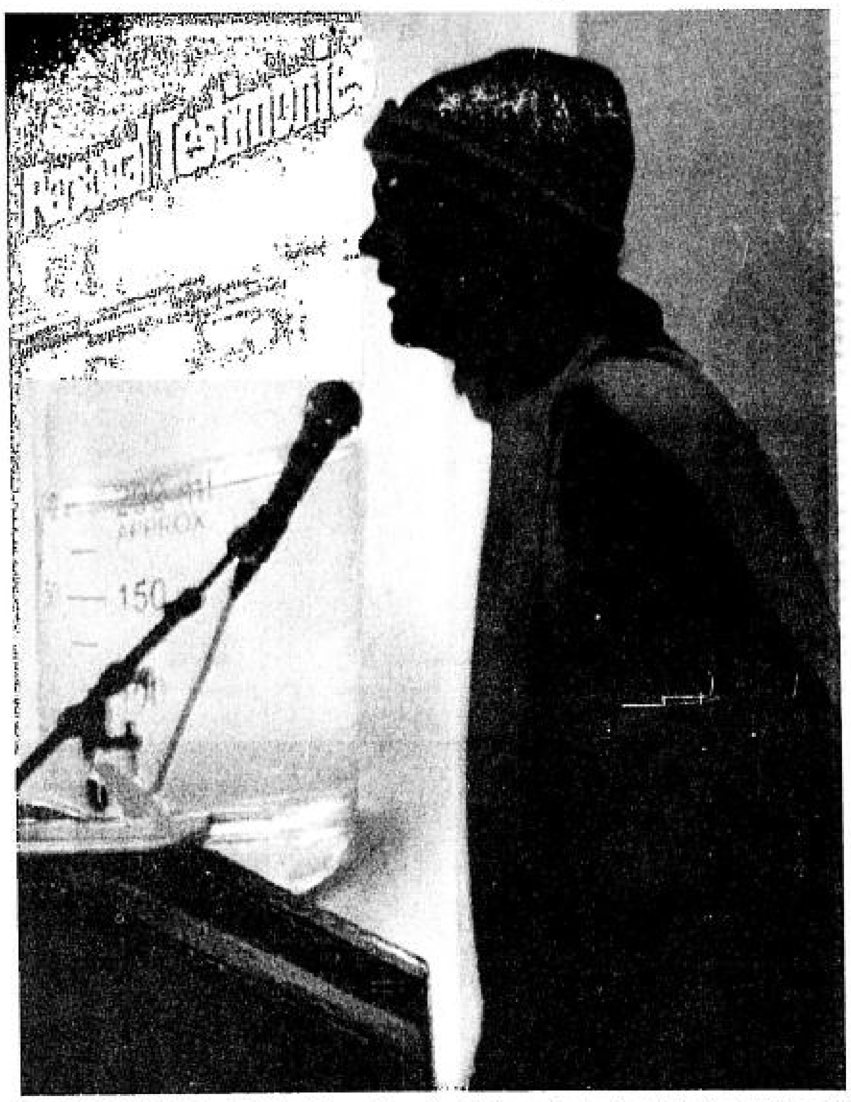
Unilever is also actively involved in state efforts to rehabilitate the dead Pasig River.

Living Lakes is also backed by 12 other European business giants, including Lufthansa, Daimler Chrysler, Karcher, T Mobile and Ziemann.

Of the 3,000-plus firms based in the Laguna de Bay basin, only eight supported the country's hosting of this year's summit. They were CBK Power Co., Ecoindex, First Philippine Industrial Park, Calamba Premiere Industrial Park, Laguna International Industrial Park, Laguna Technopark, Lima Technology Center and First Cavite Industrial Estate.

AIDS victim tells of healing ...

From page A1



TESTIMONIAL by AIDS sufferer Tom (not his real name) extols the virtues of virgin coconut oil.

PHOTOS BY RODEL ROTONI/CONTRIBUTOR

Presenting her National Academy of Science and Technology award-winning research on the efficacy of virgin coconut oil as a cure for skin diseases, like psoriasis and herpes simplex, dermatologist Dr. Vermen Verallo-Rowell batted for the use of natural virgin coconut oil as a safer and cheaper alternative to pharmaceutical antibiotics.

Government pledge

Dr. Verallo-Rowell's self-funded studies have only partially touched on the multi-benefits of coconut but already they have attracted an American publisher in soybean-oil land to fund her upcoming book, "Coconut, the Perfect Health Nut."

Speaking for the government, Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said that the earnings from coconut levy investments (as distinguished from sequestered levy assets) would be judiciously tapped for well-laid research and market development plans that would benefit this coconut-producing country and its coconut-consuming people.

On the consumers' side, Dean Fabian Dayrit PhD, of Ateneo de Manila University's Department of Chemistry, offered consumers science-based quality tests to determine what kind of coconut oil suits specific needs—and tastes.

Business vs science

Dr. Fife capped the symposium by saying that despite his books disputing allegations that coconut oil was bad for the heart and uncovering the dangers of transfatty acids in other oils, the American Soybean Association remained a powerful lobby to reckon with in the battle for consumers' health.

Verallo-Rowell, head of Makati Medical Center's Department of Dermatology, appealed for research fund support and urged the coconut industry to "counter soybean oil's business tactics with solid science."

Dr. Coconut

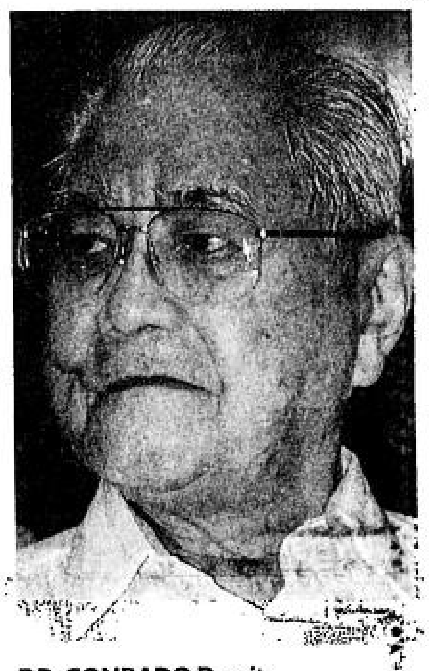
Fife, dubbed Dr. Coconut for his relentless health advocacy, challenged the country to take the lead in pushing the coconut as a "virtual medicine chest."

He told Filipinos that "you don't have the problems that we have, such as the rise in obesity, malnutrition and diabetes in the United States.

Sen. Jamby Madrigal, who was in the audience, promised to help make the country's natural resources—such as virgin coconut oil—accessible to its own people.

As for AIDS sufferer Tom, the nongovernment organization VCO Philippines gave him an assurance of a lifetime supply of his medicinal oil, and pledged to support others like him.

DR. BRUCE Fife



DR. CONRADO Dayrit

More on why coconut cures can be read in Bruce Fife's book available in limited quantities (from VCO Philippines 02-7233497, or Friday's in Boracay 036-2886222, or from the website www.piccadillybooks.com).

The Philippine Coconut Authority has just sealed a deal with Fife to publish the Philippine edition at an affordable cost for release in August 2005.

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New ring blockbuster: It's Taxman vs Pacman

MANNY PACQUIAO facing the fight of his life against the taxman. PDI PHOTO

PARAYNO: The taxman cometh PDI PHOTO

From page A1

this time with ring sensation Manny Pacquiao.

In an act worthy of a blockbuster, BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno last month wrote Pacquiao a letter, asking him to put his income tax records in order.

A week ago, Parayno said yesterday, he renewed his appeal to the boxer to set himself up as an example of a model taxpayer.

"Look, the offer stands ... you may not have carefully prepared your income payments, so please review it," Parayno recalled telling Pacquiao when the latter came to his office last week after returning from a US trip.

Parayno was referring to a letter he sent Pacquiao before the April 15 deadline for the filing of income taxes, telling the boxer that since he was idolized by millions of Filipinos, he could greatly help the BIR's Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) program by filing his taxes correctly.

"You can very well be a good endorser of good governance and we would like you to be a model of tax compliance. Come April 15, we want you to take the effort to declare your taxes properly," Parayno said in his letter.

The BIR sent the letter before Pacquiao went to the United States to face an investigation by the US Internal Revenue Service, which is also going after him for alleged unpaid taxes for a recent fight there.

In the same way the BIR was helping show biz personalities "rectify" their tax papers, Parayno said the bureau was willing to do the same for Pacquiao, who had left it to his bookkeeper to file his income tax return month.

Reason he lost fight

He said Pacquiao recently filed a corrected income tax declaration and RATE agents were still going over it.

Parayno said the BIR decided to go after Pacquiao after hearing him say that he lost the fight with Mexican Eric Morales in March because he was bothered by his problems with the IRS.

"When he lost, he said he was not physically prepared, but the problem was he was not 100 percent mentally fit because he had problems with the IRS. So I said if he had a problem with the IRS, he may have a problem with us. So he better correct it," Parayno said.

Pacquiao is said to have paid the IRS $565,000 after reportedly earning $650,000 from the fight with Morales.

But BIR sources said Pacquiao also had to account for his income from 41 other fights since 1995, as well as product endorsements.

Pacquiao is a product endorser for Talk 'N Text and Smart cellular phone, Alaxan, Surf laundry soap, Burlington socks, Pony and "No Fear" sports wear, Family Rubbing Alcohol and Red Bull, among other products.

Parayno said Pacquiao might not be at fault, but his handlers could be.

"They have the responsibility to become models because the youth look up to them and we want them to be worth looking up to," he said of Pacquaio and members of the entertainment industry.

The BIR is also going after basketball star Paul Asi Taulava.

Parayno said the BIR would not agree to any compromise in the event Pacquiao was charged with tax evasion.

"Once the line is crossed, there's no turning back," he said.

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Jail can also be a place of hope

By Jocelyn R. Uy

JOEY R. de Leon, 36, stood proud but teary-eyed in a black toga. Four gleaming medals dangled from his neck.

He had just earned a degree in Commerce, major in Entrepreneurship, at the New Bilibid Prisons (NBP) in Muntinlupa City.

He also received four awards: one for overall academic excellence, one for Best in Performing Arts, and two for excellence in leadership.

Seven years ago, all this was a dream, De Leon said. He did not imagine that he, who did not even get to third year high school, would finish college, much less receive awards.

When he stepped into prison on Sept. 28, 1998, he was certain the future would be bleak.

He was 27 when he was involved in a robbery-homicide with his friends.

He was locked up in the Quezon City jail for a year, then transferred to the NBP's medium-security compound at Camp Sampaguita.

Hopeless

"When I first entered the institution, I felt hopeless and (sad)… But (I developed) a positive outlook in life when I joined the education program of the Bureau of Corrections," De Leon said in his valedictory during the 16th graduation rites held in the college building at Camp Sampaguita.

A fellow inmate encouraged him to avail of the free education program offered by the NBP and the University of Perpetual Help System-Dalta, an extension school of the University of Perpetual Help-Rizal.

The institution offered the four-year entrepreneurship course to equip qualified inmates, who would soon be released, with skills to help them set up their own businesses, Dr. Resurrecion Morales, chief of NBP's education section, told the INQUIRER.

"Ex-convicts have a hard time getting employed because of the stigma of being criminals. So we teach them to become entrepreneurs instead," Morales explained.

Rigorous screening

Like in any college outside the prison, enrollees underwent rigorous screening before being admitted.

"We get the best, the brightest and the deserving," Morales said. Applicants had to submit transcripts of records, take an IQ exam and undergo an interview, considered the most crucial.

"The interview helps us understand the inmate's psychological makeup, know his motive for enrolling and assess how he would cope with the schooling," she added.

JUSTICE Secretary Raul Gonzalez (above, right) shakes the hand of Joey de Leon and other graduates of the Bureau of Corrections education program for inmates. Below, De Leon's brother, Benjie, pins on him one of the four medals he earned from the program provided by the University of Perpetual Help System.

REM ZAMORA

Classes are held 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and also on weekends, the only time student-teacher volunteers are free.

Medium-security inmates could also enroll in elementary and high school.

De Leon had to finish high school first at the branch of the Muntinlupa National High School at NBP.

For school year 2004-2005, 535 inmates enrolled in the NBP's educational program—190, aged 25-40,, were college students. This year, 16 inmates graduated from college.

Accomplishment

"We are happy because we are witnessing the completion of our (inmates' schooling)… [This] is another (accomplishment for our) rehabilitation program," said Bureau of Corrections Director General Vicente Vinarao in his welcome address during the graduation rites.

Department of Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez and Muntinlupa City Mayor Jaime Fresnedi were present to congratulate the graduates.

The one-story building where classes are held used to be a military barrack.

It was refurbished and provided with modern school facilities with the help of Bea Zobel.

The Rotary Club of Parañaque South, Unilab Philippines, Rep. Rufino Biazon, Fresnedi, De La Salle Greenhills and the Philippine Jesuit Prison Service also helped.

"Here, they are treated like professionals. But there are also certain rules they must follow since this is a prison institution. If they violate the rules, they lose this privilege," Morales said.

An escape

Rodelio Casilag, 40, a former policeman in Quezon City convicted of frustrated murder, enrolled in the college program initially to avoid being transferred to a provincial penal colony.

"But I realized it should not be my reason for enrolling," said the third year college student. He added that the program gave him a chance to share his God-given talents.

A member of Tanghalang Munti, the college's performing arts guild, Casilag used skills learned from the Philippine Educational Theater Association (Peta) when still in elementary school to teach acting to other members.

He said he loved acting so much that when he is free, four to 10 years from now, he would seek part-time work in show business. He prefers drama and action movies.

"*Kahit* extra *lang. Basta may mag*-offer," he said, adding he would also like to go back to the police service if given the chance.

Otherwise, Casilag would just use the entrepreneurial skills he was learning.

"I'd like to work in a business. I love talking, so maybe I could work as a car or a house and lot sales agent, or anything that has to do with selling," he said.

For now, he would like to focus on the present.

"The future is still (far away)," he said, adding he would concentrate on his studies first.

Potential realized

In De Leon's case, it was through the educational program that he realized the potential he didn't know he had when he was a free man.

He served as president of the college student council and, like Casilag, was an active member of Tanghalang Munti.

"It was here that I discovered that I could be a good leader, an actor and a singer," De Leon told the INQUIRER after the graduation rites.

He looked accomplished and happy in his blue long-sleeved shirt, pink elephant-printed necktie and black slacks. But he could have been happier if his mother were there, he said.

His mother, who works in Riyadh, was not allowed to go home by her employers, he said. She didn't know he was graduating at the top of his class.

"I was planning to surprise her today," said the valedictorian, close to tears. He brightened up when he said he would just send his diploma and graduation rites video to his mother.

"I would use the P1,000 that Secretary Gonzalez gave us to send them," he said. The secretary distributed the cash gift to each graduate at the end of the ceremonies.

In another year, De Leon would be a free man. When that day comes, there are two things he would do: be a father to his two teenage daughters and look for work.

In the meantime, he would spend his remaining days in jail as a high school teacher.

"So I could give back something to the institution and share what I've learned from my professors," he said.

LTFRB to deliberate on public's appeal to withdraw fare hike

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE LAND Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board yesterday said it would act on the petition of a commuters' group for it to reconsider the P2 fare hike approval it granted to public utility vehicles.

LTFRB chair Maria Elena Bautista said the board would deliberate on the motion for reconsideration filed Thursday by the National Council for Commuters' Protection (NCCP) Inc.

"We cannot ignore the motion for reconsideration. The board will act on it as soon as possible," Bautista told the INQUIRER in a text message.

The P2 fare increase is scheduled to take effect on May 26.

That means starting Thursday, jeepneys will be charging P7.50 for the first four kilometers and buses, P8 for the first five kilometers.

Elvie Medina, president of the NCCP, said the LTFRB decision to grant a P2 increase in jeepney and bus fares last May 9 was unfair, unjustified and excessive.

She said the group would exhaust all legal remedies to block the fare increase.

The group said that based on its computation, a reasonable fare increase should only be about a peso and not two pesos.

If the LTFRB would not hear the group's motion for reconsideration, then the NCCP would appeal to the head of the Department of Transportation and Communications.

"We call on LTFRB to reconsider its decision and roll back its announced transport fare hike or at least re-compute it based on more realistic assumptions or possibly come out with more specific fare formulas for specific routes," the group said.

"(The fare hike) was passed without sufficient public consultation with the very sector that will be affected most, the commuters," said Medina.

Founded in November 2004, the NCCP claims to be the first and only commuter group in the country.

Medina claimed the group has about 10,000 members who volunteered to help advance the cause of commuters.

She said that diesel prices went up by only 45 percent from May 2004 but the fare would have increased by 87.5 percent by next week because the LTFRB had already granted two fare hikes since that time.

"At best, the series of fuel price hikes should only be a maximum increase in fares by about one peso, which is computed as the 39-percent increase in diesel fuel times the 49-percent share of fuel (in operating costs) multiplied to P5.50 which is the current minimum fare or P1.05 and not P2," the NCCP said in its position paper.

UN takes a step to help RP kids

By Fran Katigbak

TAKE a walk on the child's side

Thus is the message of the fund-raising walkathon for children's education that will be held today, 4 p.m., at the Heritage Park in Fort Bonifacio.

Sponsored by the United Nations Children's Fund, the event aims to raise P1 million for the deteriorating conditions in public schools and to promote the idea of creating child-friendly schools.

"People always complain but take no action to improve the quality of education in the country," said Dickie Soriano of BCD Pinpoint, which organized the walkathon.

Soriano said the walkathon gives people the chance to do something concrete to solve problems.

"Instead of just talking the talk, you actually walk the walk," he said.

Participants can donate P250, P500 or P750 to walk either the 2.5-km (30-minute walk), 5-km (1 hour), and 7.5-km (1 hour, 30 minutes) distances.

A walker can also ask other people to sponsor his or her walk, which would raise a bigger amount for the cause.

Sponsors of the walkathon include the Taguig local government, which will provide security and a fire truck.

Coca-Cola, Hot Loops and Burger Machine will donate food and drinks for participants.

Participants can register up to 4 p.m.

TRO on Luneta boardwalk extended

By Tina G. Santos

A MANILA judge has extended the temporary restraining order (TRO) preventing the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA) and a group of foreign investors from displacing stall owners at the boardwalk behind the Quirino Grandstand to give way to a proposed ocean park project.

Judge Augusto Gutierrez of the Regional Trial Court Branch 47 extended to June 5 the 72-hour TRO earlier granted by Executive Judge Antonio Eugenio Jr.

The stall owners—members of the Luneta Boardwalk Tenants Association Inc.—claimed that the PTA earlier issued a notice asking them to vacate the area, more popularly known as the Luneta Boardwalk, because it had already been leased to the Chinese and Malaysian consortium China Oceanis Group Ltd.

This, the stall owners said, was in spite of a lease contract they had forged with PTA.

"No public bidding was conducted offering the project of developing the Luneta Boardwalk," said lawyer Angel Gatmaitan, counsel for the complainants.

The stall owners were also deprived of any information on the Memorandum of Agreement for the building of the Manila Ocean Park forged between PTA and the investors, Gatmaitan added.

"The complainants stand to gravely and irreparably suffer from the implementation of the illegal transaction as some 300 families involved in small-scale industries will be deprived of their livelihood and only source of income," he said.

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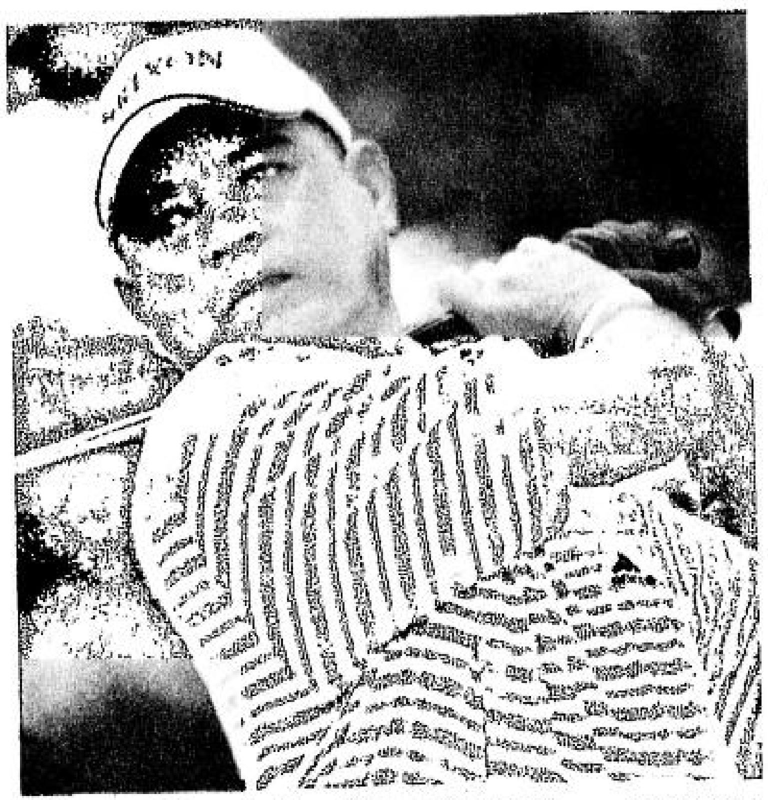


THAILAND'S Boonchu Ruangkit tees off on hole 5. ROGER MARGALLO

Aussie fires record 62, grabs lead

By Musong R. Castillo

LIPA CITY—Jason Dawes of Australia whipped up a sizzling round just before the rains fell hard, tearing Mt. Malarayat apart with a record nine-under-par 62 yesterday that installed him as the new leader of the 89th Philippine Open.

The 31-year-old Aussie opened up with back-to-back birdies and closed out with birds in his last three holes, leapfrogging from joint 27th to a one-shot lead over Thai veteran and halfway pacesetter Boonchu Ruangkit.

Dawes had a 54-hole 206 total after the flawless round that included four other birdies that were hard to come by in the first two rounds where he scored 72s.

Ruangkit, the 49-year-old Thai hero, stumbled with a double bogey six on the 16th and settled for a 69 and a 207 total, a stroke ahead of another hard-charging Australian, Adam Le Vesconte, who signed for a 67.

Amateur Juvic Pagunsan remained the most consistent Filipino in the field, nailing an eight-foot putt for eagle on the par-5 closing hole for a 69.

Gerald Rosales, the champion in 2000 at The Riviera in Cavite, shot a 67 and joined Pagunsan in fourth spot with 209 aggregates together with Thai Somkiat Srisa-Nga (67) and Canadian Darren Griff (68).

The 27-year-old Rosales had four birdies in a 33-34 card, narrowly missing an eagle putt on the 18th.

The runner-up to American Edward Michaels last year, Pagunsan had three birdies and the same number of bogeys before nailing a difficult downhill putt for a three on the 18th to wheel into contention for the second straight year.

"It was just a matter of pin placements today," said Dawes, the 2003 Taiwan Open winner. "They were not too difficult nor were they too easy. I guess I just made the putts when it mattered."

Dawes broke Richard Sinfuego's record of 64 established in 1999 during a leg of the Philip Morris circuit, when the Mts. Makulot and Lobo nines played to a par-72 and not one shot less for this tournament.

This tournament reduced Makulot's No. 7 into a 489-yard par-4, which Dawes birdied.

Antonio Lascuña shot a 68 and Rey Pagunsan a 69 to move up to a tie for 10th spot with Thais Chapchai Nirat (66) and rookie pro Wisut Artjunawat (69), the hero for Thailand in its runaway Putra Cup victory in Indonesia last year.

Cassius Casas and Angelo Que struggled on a tranquil and calm day that saw 31 players broke par.

Casas, the 2001 winner, double bogeyed No. 2, had bogeys on 9 and 10, another double on the 16th before salvaging his round with a four-foot putt for eagle on the 18th for a 215. Que had a 74 for 217.

Artemio Murakami carded a 69 and jumped to joint 24th, eight shots behind the pace like India's Arjun Singh (72), Malaysian Airil Rizman Zahari (72), and Aussies Richard Backwell and Robin Hodgetts, who had 69s.

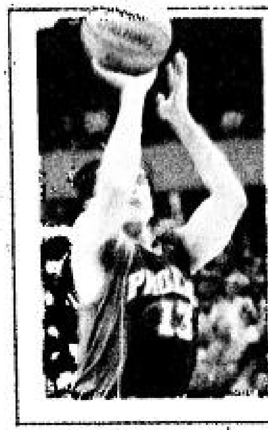
A steady drizzle fell shortly before the third round ended until late last night and if the winds again don't blow today, scoring could be as torrid.

Third Round scores

206 - J. Dawes (Aus) 72-72-62 206
207 - B. Ruangkit (Tha) 70-68-69
208 - A. Le Vesconte (Aus)71-70-67
209 - G. Rosales 69-73-67, S. Srisanga (Tha) 67-75-67, D. Griff (Can)69-72-68, J. Pagunsan (a) 68-72-69
210 - S. Hussein (Mas) 73-70-67, B. Saltus (US) 68-74-68
211 - C. Nirat (Tha) 73-72-66, W. Artjanawat (Tha) 73-71-67, T. Lascuña 72-71-68, R. Pagunsan 70-72-69
212 - R. Nachimuthu (Mas) 72-73-67, R. Won (US) 69-71-72, A. Buckle (Aus) 66-73-73
213 - Lee SK (Kor) 71-75-67, K. Horne (RSA) 72-73-68, Lam CB (Sing) 74-7168, C. Travers (Aus) 68-75-70, J. Wither (Sco) 68-73-72, J. Lupprian (Ger) 71-70-72, G. Morales (Ven) 71-70-72
214 - R. Backwell (Aus) 71-75-68, A. Murakami (a) 75-70-69, R. Hodgetts (Aus)75-70-69, A. R. Zahari (Mas) 70-72-72, A. Singh (Ind) 72-70-72
215 - O. Nordberg (Swe) 73-73-69, J. Bayron (a) 76-68-71, D. Chia (Mas) 72-71-72, C. Gill (Eng) 72-69-74, F. C. Casas 70-70-75
216 - D. Singh (Ind) 74-73-69, C. Warren (Aus) 73-74-69, U. Duangdecha (Tha) 72-75-69, S. Kapur (Ind) 70-76-70, D. Alaban (Aus) 73-74-69,H. Takeuchi (Jpn) 71-73-72, R. Gibson (Can) 71-70-75
217 - Sung MC (Tpe) 69-78-70, G. Rusnak (US) 76-71-70, O. Sumcad 78-69-70, S. Taylor (US) 70-76-71, D. Fung (HK) 72-75-70, A. Quiroz (Mex) 72-73-72, A. Rohana (Sri) 72-73-72, A. Prathummanee (Tha) 71-74-72, J. Lyle (Aus) 70-74-73, A. Que 68-75-74
218 - E. Salvador 75-72-71, C. Lao 75-72-71, M. Both (Aus) 76-71-71, J. Chitprasong (Tha) 71-74-73, Kao BS (Tpe) 78-68-72, A. Pitts (US) 73-72-73, A. Win (Myn) 73-71-74, C. Rodgers (Eng) 69-73-76
219 - A. Kang (US) 77-69-73, A. Cruz 72-73-74, F. Ali (Ind) 73-72-74, A. Blyth (Aus) 68-75-76
220 - Lin WH (Tpe) 76-71-73, A. Groom (Aus) 78-68-74, T. Bise (Jpn) 75-72-73, M. Pucay 72-73-75, P. Spargo (Aus) 72-71-77
221 - Cho MG (a-Kor) 71-74-76, J. O'Sullivan (Aus) 72-73-76
222 - P. Tipsanit (Tha) 75-72-75, V. Bhandari (Ind) 72-74-76
223 - B. Magada 76-71-76, Hsieh TS (Tpe) 71-73-79
224 - J. Stewart (HK) 71-74-79
226 - G. Bondoc (a) 74-73-79

Today's pairings

6:30 a.m. - G. Bondoc (a), J. Stewart (HK), Hsieh TS (Tpe)
6:40 - B. Magada, V. Bhandari (Ind), P. Tipsanit (Tha)
6:50 - J. O'Sullivan (Aus), Cho MG (a-Kor), P. Spargo (Aus)
7:00 - M. Pucay, A. Groom (Aus), T. Bise (Jpn)
7:10 - Lin WH (Tpe), A. Blyth (Aus), F. Ali (Ind)
7:20 - A. Cruz, A. Kang (US), C. Rodgers (Eng)
7:30 - A. Win (Mya), A. Pitts (US), J. Chitprasong (Tha)
7:40 - Kao BS (Tpe), M. Both (Aus), C. Lao
7:50 - E. Salvador, A. Que, J. Lyle (Aus)
8:00 - A. Rohana (Sri), A. Prathummanee (Tha), A. Quiroz (Mex)
8:10 - S. Taylor (US), D. Fung (HK), O. Sumcad
8:20 - Sung MC (Tpe), G. Rusnak (US), R. Gibson (Can)
8:30 - H. Takeuchi (Jpn), S. Kapur (Ind), D. Alaban (Aus)
8:40 - U. Duangdecha (Tha), D. Singh (Ind), C. Warren (Aus)
8:50 - F. Casas, C. Gill (Eng), D. Chia (Mas)
9:00 - Jay Bayron (a), O. Nordberg (Swe), A. Singh (Ind)
9:10 - HA. R. Zahari (Mas), R. Hodgetts (Aus), A. Murakami (a)
9:20 - R. Backwell (Aus), G. Morales (Ven), J. Wither (Sco)
9:30 - J. Luprian (Ger), C. Travers (Aus), Lam CB (Sin)
9:40 - K. Horne (SA), Lee SK (Kor), A. Buckle (Aus)
9:50 - R. Won (US), R. Nachimuto (Mas), R. Pagunsan
10:00 - T. Lascuña, W. Artnajawat (Tha), C. Nirat (Tha)
10:10 - B. Saltus (US), S. Hussein (Mas), J. Pagunsan (a)
10:20 - D. Griff (Can), S. Srisa-nga (Tha), G. Rosales
10:30 - A. Le Vesconte (Aus), B. Ruangkit (Tha), J. Dawes (Aus)



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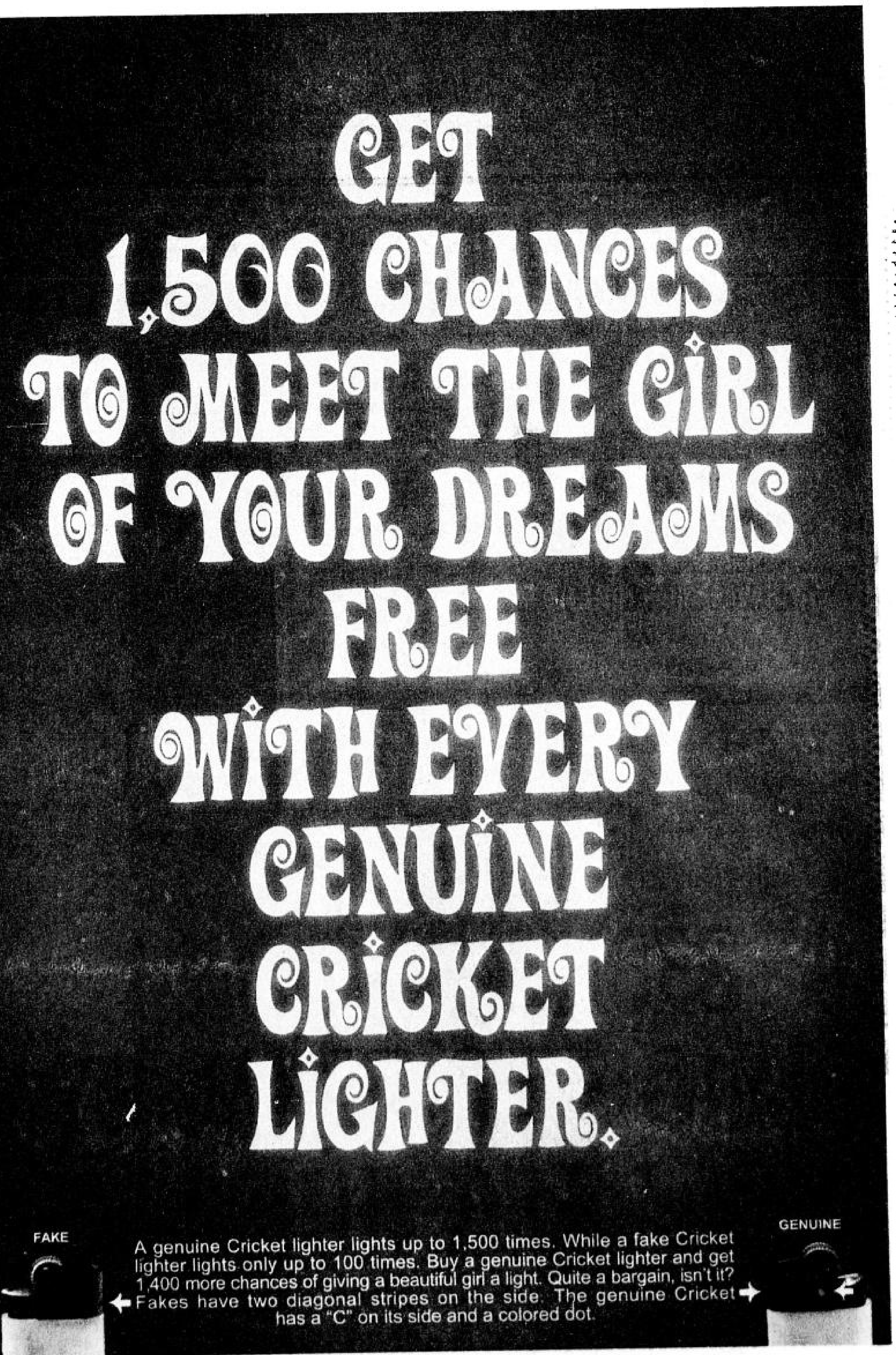

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Seigle, Menk out of RP Champs five

By Francis Ochoa

NO DANNY Seigle. No Eric Menk. No problem.

National coach Chot Reyes yesterday announced the first official team culled from his national training pool, a 12-man roster that will compete in the Fiba (international basketball federation)-Asia Champions Cup which fires off next Sunday at the Araneta Coliseum.

The team will be without Seigle, the San Miguel hotshot who is undoubtedly the most creative scorer in the league today, and Menk, the bullstrong Ginebra center known for his post play and work ethic.

Still, considering the modest goals set for the team, Reyes made the announcement with nary a trace of apprehension.

"Obviously we want to win," he said, "but not at the expense of improving and developing the team. We want to see how well we'll play without Menk and Seigle."

Making up the RP squad are Jimmy Alapag, Willie Miller and Yancy de Ocampo of Talk 'N Text, Renren Ritualo of FedEx, Dondon Hontiveros and Nic Belasco of San Miguel, Tony dela Cruz of Shell, Kerby Raymundo of Purefoods, Mark Caguioa and Rommel Adducul of Ginebra, Rafi Reavis of Coca-Cola, and Sonny Thoss of Alaska.

Seigle is out with a third-degree sprain that should keep him inactive for two to three weeks. Menk remains ineligible pending the completion of his citizenship documents.

Still, "It's a very balanced lineup, very athletic, very quick," said Reyes, who got the green light from PBA Commissioner Noli Eala to make the announcement late in the afternoon. "The team has the ability to run and pressure on defense."

The Philippines is bracketed with Kazakhstan, India, Iran and defending champion Lebanon, while the other group is made up of Qatar, Jordan, Kuwait and Syria.

South Korea begged off at the last minute.

The initial format calls for a one-round robin elimination with the top two teams from each group playing a cross-over semifinal with the winners disputing the title.

"We are in a very strong bracket," Reyes said. "Iran alone will be coming in with its national team, including at least one 7' 3" player.

"But what's beautiful is we'll have four tough games immediately. It will give us an opportunity to take a closer look at the players we really want."

Reyes said that while winning the tournament would be a morale-booster as the team prepares for the Fiba-Asia Men's Championship in September in Doha, Qatar, the experience would be an even bigger reward.

Joining Reyes on the bench are 2002 Asian Games coach Jong Uichico of San Miguel, and fellow assistants Binky Favis of Ginebra and Aboy Castro of Coke.

The Champions Cup is the first of three PBA commitments forged in a Memorandum of Agreement between the pro league and the Basketball Association of the Philippines this year. The others are the William Jones Cup in Taiwan in July and the Asian Championship in September.

Welcoat forges KO game for semis slot

AS EXPECTED, Welcoat Paints outclassed a fired-up Negros Navigation-San Beda squad, 85-69, yesterday to earn a playoff for the second outright semifinal berth in the PBL Unity Cup at the JCSGO Gym in Cubao.

But the Paint Masters are headed for a match with fewer guarantees than what yesterday's virtual workout offered.

Welcoat faces a hard-fighting Harbour Centre to decide who will join the Montaña Jewels in the semifinals outright.

The loser of the Welcoat-Harbour Centre showdown will settle for one of two twice-to-beat slots going into the quarterfinals.

The other twice-to-beat edge will also be disputed via a playoff between Magnolia Dairy Ice Cream and Toyota Otis-Letran, after the Wizards downed the Knights in the second game, 68-59.

Fil-Am Kelly Williams powered Magnolia to its third straight win.

Both the Wizards and Knights finished with 6-5 records.

The Red Lions suffered their 11th straight loss. *Francis Ochoa*

The scores:

First Game

WELCOAT 85—Tangkay 15, Reyes 14, Washington 11, Najorda 10, Orbeta 8, Ortiguerra 7, Sta. Maria 6, Coching 4, Dy 4, Junio 2, Guevarra 2, Estrada 2, Gamboa 0, Tan 0, Sagad 0.

NENACO 69—Fasano 15, Javier 13, Bombeo 11, Aljamal 10, Antonio 6, Baldivia 4, Soriano 3, Cruz 3, Razon 2, de Guzman 2, Arbole 0, Timonera 0, Maggay 0.

Quarters: 20-14, 44-31, 65-44, 85-69.

JOEL Co of Magnolia drives past Christian Coronel of Toyota-Otis.

AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Tribu Sugbu downs CdO Stars in NBC

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Defending champion Tribu Sugbu repulsed host Cagayan de Oro Stars, 68-64, Friday to bounce back in the southern conference of the 2005 Panasonic-NBC national basketball championship at the Xavier University gym here.

Mark Magsumbol came off the bench to score 10 of the Cebuanos' last 12 points and help the Skygo/Sirlitz-backed team of businessmen Lito Gillamac and Mario King level its record after losing 79-85 to Ozamiz Cotta in its debut. Magsumbol followed up Maui Huelar's basket with a putback and then struck again with 1:55 left to push Tribu in front, 65-62.

The Stars of former Misamis Oriental Gov. Antonio Calingin inched closer on Julius Navales' charities with 39 ticks left, but Magsumbol scored three charities to seal the win.

The loss was the second in three games for the Stars in the tourney supported by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Cebu Pacific, Philtranco, Spring Cooking Oil, Accel, Molten, Sunbolt, Nature's Spring, Far Eastern Insurance, Skygo Motorcycles, Sirlitz Solutions Provider, Ping Ping Lechon, Rough Rider Jeans, Bayview Park Hotel and Holiday Plaza-Cebu.

Action resumes today at the Tagaytay Sports Complex with the Iligan Crusaders facing the Cavite Insurers at 3 p.m.

The scores:

Cebu 68—Magsumbol 19, Binongo 16, Huelar 13, Pening 6, Cainglet 4, Paglinawan 3, Ursal 3, Briones 2, Luga 2; Bucao 0, Reyes 0, Almacin 0

CdO 64—Navales 11, Jabagat 10, Agusan 10, Neri 9, Ortiguesa 9, Ramos 6, Dela Victoria 4, Alfante 3, Torres 2, Polistico 0, Rivera 0

Red Bull trips Brgy. Ginebra

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
4:10 p.m.—FedEx vs Coke
6:35 p.m.—Purefoods vs Sta. Lucia

EARL Barron lorded it over in the paint as Red Bull notched a 94-85 win over defending champion Barangay Ginebra in the 2005 Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference last night at the USLS Gym in Bacolod City.

Barron tossed in 29 points and Nelson Asaytono added 16 as the Barako scored again on the road following a 90-80 conquest of the Coca-Cola Tigers just three days ago in Malolos, Bulacan.

Streaking to a third straight win, the Barako climbed to 9-8 in a tie with Sta. Lucia Realty while the Kings, who played without the suspended Eric Menk for the third time, suffered their ninth defeat in 16 games.

Menk continued to serve his suspension for failing to complete the documents required by the league on foreign-born players.

The Kings seemed on track to register a third consecutive victory when Andrei Brown fired 15 points in the third, highlighted by three rim-rattling dunks, for a 63-55 Ginebra lead.

It was then that Barron and Asaytono conspired to erase the deficit with their timely incursions in the shaded area as the Barako grabbed a 75-68 advantage going into the final stretch.

Brown completed a three-point play, 84-82, but that was the closest Ginebra could get as Junthy Valenzuela joined the scoring fray for the Barako.

Mark Caguioa poured in 15 points in the first half, 10 of them in the second quarter as the Gin Kings grabbed a 40-38 edge at the intermission.

Meanwhile, Sta. Lucia Realty hopes to at least get a crack at one of the two automatic semifinal berths when the Realtors end their classification round campaign against the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs today at the Araneta Coliseum.

In the other game, FedEx tries to make it four in a row at the expense of Coca-Cola. The Express edged the Hotdogs in the last game and climbed to 8-7 while the Tigers (5-11) are reeling from four consecutive setbacks. *June Navarro*

The scores:

RED BULL 94—Barron 29, Valenzuela 16, Asaytono 16, Meneses 10, Tugade 6, Torion 5, Baguio 4, Villanueva 2, Ejercito, Feihl 2, Ybanez 2, Robinson 0.

GINEBRA 85—Brown 25, Caguioa 21, Adducul 14, Santos 6, Echavez 5, Noble 5, Seigle 4, Salvacion 3, Dimaunahan 2.

Quarters: 18-13, 30-40, 65-68, 94-85

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La Salle spikers prevail

LA SALLE whipped undermanned Lyceum, 25-16, 25-20, 25-23, yesterday to wrest back the solo lead in the 2005 Shakey's V-League first conference at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Maureen Penetrante and Desiree Hernandez stood at the vanguard of La Salle's unrelenting attack, combining for 24 hits, including 18 on kills, as the Lady Archers rolled to their third straight victory in this tournament put up by Shakey's Pizza.

That despite Michelle Carolino's mediocre performance as the 2004 second conference MVP struggled with only five points.

Ateneo brought down first conference champion University of Santo Tomas, 21-25, 25-22, 25-17, 18-25, 15-11, in the second game to gain solo third.

It was the Lady Eagles' second straight five-set victory, which observers believe would serve them in good stead in their bid to come up with a strong finish on their very first try in the league.

The Tigresses reeled to their second defeat in three games.

The Lady Pirates took their third straight setback.

SPORTSWATCH

Table tennis clinic at Grace Park

FORMER national players are the official trainers in the ongoing first Green Paddle's boys and girls table tennis clinic at the U31 Grace Park Commercial Complex on Fourth Avenue, West Caloocan City. The clinic, organized by Philip Uy, is being handled by Ateneo senior instructor Floyd Lobaton, Crisanta Abas and former national Michael Dalumpines. There are 75 students currently enrolled and more are signing up to join the clinic, which is scheduled everyday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After summer, the clinic will be open only on Saturdays and Sundays. It is open to boys and girls ages 4 and up. Call 365-2334 or 365-2335 and look for Anne for details.

Monaco GP at Speedzone

WITH the Mild Seven Renault F1 Team's spectacular winning streak of four consecutive races broken by McLaren Mercedes in the Spanish GP, focus will shift on the rising French team in this weekend's Monaco GP. The Mild Seven F1 Club will show round 6 live at Speedzone at Fort Bonifacio in an elegant al fresco setting complete with JVC Plasma TVs and surround sound system. The fastest club in the Philippines is sponsored by Mild Seven, Speedzone, Puma Footwear and Apparel, Colt 45, Colt Ice, Lonestar Ultra and Light Beers, JVC, MP Turbo and Speed, with official radio stations Joey 92.3 and Monster RX 93.1 FM. For details, call 0919-4921575.

Battle of Champions at Elorde

THE 4-COCK derby Battle of Champions will unfold at the New Elorde Cockpit Stadium on Tuesday. Promoted by businessman/sportsman Johnny Elorde, this event has almost 70 confirmed entries. A guaranteed prize of P300,000 is at stake with pot money pegged at P8,800. Minimum bet is P5,500. Among those who have submitted their entries are Manny Pacquiao, lawyer A. Astorga, Richard Ramos, Gary de Leon, Mindoro cockers, Chito Bong, Biñan Cockpit, San Pedro Cockpit, Joey Dy, Ashley Arayata and Bobby Cabillon.

Shuttler's Haven sweeps tilt

ROSALIE Soberano and Ralph Ian Mendez trounced their respective rivals to sweep the singles crowns for Shuttler's Haven at the close of the JVC Regional Badminton Championships at the Pohang Badminton Center in Bacolod City over the weekend. Soberano downed Iloilo Doctors' Annalyn Alba, 11-6, 11-7, to bag the ladies' crown, while Mendez recovered in time to thwart teammate Karl Sorronda, 15-2, 11-15, 15-4, and cop the men's diadem in the elite division of the event which capped the four-leg swing of the regional tournament sponsored by JVC (Phils.) Inc. The Sigma Capiz bets, on the other hand, dominated the juniors' side.

Puno-Jiao entry prevails

WILD Wing Sundance, an entry of Rep. Ronnie Puno and noted Rizal breeder Boy Jiao, ruled the National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-Cock Derby Thursday night at the Araneta Coliseum. Using Jiao's signature Hatch Grey Roundheads and Hatch Roundheads, Wild Wing Sundance tallied six wins and one loss. It was Rep. Puno and Jiao's third title in the NCA cockfighting circuit. Jiao's fighters are being trained and conditioned in Puno's game farm using the Ave Science gamefowl nutrition program and Featheraide.

National Jet Ski Series revival

THE JET Sports Association of the Philippines (JSAP) stages the revival of the JSAP National Jet Ski Series on May 28 at the Caylabne Beach Resort in Ternate, Cavite. The kickoff leg will also serve as a reunion of sorts for the country's best jetski talents. "By gathering the past champions and other top Filipino riders, we hope to inspire new riders to pursue their dream and help us realize this thrust," said Dong Arcilla of the organizing Networx Jetsports. Call 413-3109 or check out www.networxjetsports.com for details.

Doliguez vs Paro in Fistorama

SAMSUNG'S Fistorama features today two exciting bouts in the flyweight and bantamweight divisions. Marlon Malacao faces Rosano Miranda in a four-round slugfest at 112 lbs. For the main event, rated boxers Roy Doliguez and Sherwin Paro square off in 10 rounds at 118 lbs. The bouts were held at the Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Bagumbayan, Taguig, recently. Samsung's Fistorama is aired Saturdays and Sundays all over the world through ABS-CBN Global's The Filipino Channel/Pinoy Central TV. The event is aired at 4 p.m. Sundays on RPN-9.

Gabuco sets up pinweight duel against old foe

By Dennis U. Eroa
INQUIRER Libre sports editor

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Palawan sensation Josie Gabuco went all-out in the third and final round and was a rewarded with a come-from-behind 64-57 victory over fellow national training pool member Alice Kate Aparri of University of Baguio to enter the pinweight finals of the National Youth and Women's Amateur Boxing Championships Friday night at the Puerto Princesa Coliseum here.

Behind on points in the first two rounds, the 18-year-old Gabuco had the crowd roaring in delight as she threw everything at the surprised Aparri, who was unable to wriggle out of harm's way.

The clash was so close the scoring machine actually scored it a 13-13 deadlock, but the individual scores of the five judges installed Gabuco the winner.

Gabuco's victory lined her up for the gold against fellow national team standout Gretchen Abaniel.

Abaniel owns a 3-2 edge over Abuco in their head-on clashes, including a victory in last year's pinweight final in Panabo City.

"I want revenge. Gretchen's my friend but I want to beat her," said Gabuco, shy and frail despite her reputation as a fearless fighter.

Ana Lisa Cruz of South Cotabato made it to the lightflyweight finals with a referee-stopped contest win over Mandaluyong's Lee Ocon. She battles Palawena Jonna Nazarino in the final.

Ronijen Sofla of University of Baguio clashes with Johren de la Rosa of South Cotabato for the featherweight gold, while Asian champion Michel Martinez tackles Ofelia Lamitar of Puerto Princesa in the lightweight.final.

Lamitar is the wife of three-time Olympian Romeo Brin, also coach of the Puerto Princesa boxing team.

Bets from Panabo, Palawan, Puerto Princesa, Cotabato province, Bago City, Compostela Valley, Kapalong and South Cotabato will slug it out for top honors Saturday night at the end of the event hosted by the Puerto Princesa City council headed by Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn.

Panabo sent five finalists in the kids division, while Puerto Princesa and North Cotabato had four each. The North Cotabato bets were inspired no end after a short visit by Gov. Manny Pinol, a staunch boxing supporter.

In the cadet class, Panabo boasted of five finalists, while Kapalong, South Cotabato and Cotabato province had two each.

In the schoolboys division, Palawan had four finalists, Bago City three, and Panabo 2. Panabo again had the most number of finalists in the juniors with three, followed by Camiguin, Bago and Palawan with two each.

Meanwhile, Manny T. Lopez, president of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines, praised the City Council for hosting the tournament which aims to identify, recruit and train new talents for the national pool.

Peñalosa-Hurtado showdown May 27

PEÑALOSA

FORMER World Boxing Council super fly king Gerry Peñalosa, now trained by Buddy McGirt in Orlando, Florida, is slated to fight former IBF bantam challenger Reynaldo "El Doberman" Hurtado on May 27 possibly in Pompano, Florida.

Reports from Florida indicated that the 32-year-old southpaw, who will be promoted by Murad Muhammad, is undergoing extensive training under McGirt and is in "the best possible shape" for his upcoming fight.

Peñalosa, who plans to return to the Philippines after the fight, was scheduled to see action in the undercard of the Diego Corrales-Jose Luis Castillo war two weeks ago, but was scrapped from the card.

Dodie Boy Peñalosa, the former two-division world champ who trains his brother in the Philippines, had earlier said the fight with Hurtado been moved to July, but apparently Muhammad was able to snag an earlier date for his ward.

Peñalosa (48-5-2, 33 KOs), who holds the fringe World Boxing Foundation 115-lb crown, will stake his reputation against Hurtado, a native of Colombia, who boasts a 36-6-1 win-loss-draw record with 27 KOs. *Salven L. Lagumbay, contributor*

Ganoy bags WBF title

AUSTRALIA-BASED Filipino Ranee Ganoy bucked a highly partisan hometown crowd to win the World Boxing Foundation Asia Pacific light-welterweight title Thursday with a ninth-round demolition of Australian Johnny Shefeeraw at the Panthers World of Entertainment in Penrith, NSW, Australia.

WBF president Mick Croucher yesterday informed this writer that Ganoy stopped the Aussie at the 1:02 mark of the ninth. *Salven L. Lagumbay, contributor*

Capulan tops duckpin meet

RENE Capulan of NSBA and Cess Ubaña of CADBA scored contrasting victories to rule the men's and ladies' singles event in the recent 39th Grand and 11th Youth national duckpin bowling championships at the Marketplace Center in Mandaluyong City.

Capulan routed Rene Glema, 242-203, while Ubaña struggled before winning over Rose Layoc in the stepladder finals.

Glema and Layoc advanced by beating Boying Magday, 122-108, and Janet Ocampo, 116-97, respectively.

NSBA W Lily and CADBA EJ bagged the men's and women's team titles.

Composed of Tony Manghaya, Rollie Abundo and team captain/manager Ricky Santos, NSBA W Lily IV nipped SR Bacolod, 332-331, while CADBA EJ, made up of Cess Ubaña, Len Len de Castro and Emmy Ariola and managed by Beth Pagkalinawan, toppled CADBA Slim, 308-280.

Gerry Ancheta whipped Vicky Paragas, 253-233, to win the seniors' crown while Vener Palma and Franklin Dychinco prevailed in the youth competition.

Palma subdued Joseph Ardales, 183-178, in the 10- to 13-year-old bracket while Dychinco beat Danajo Mabaylan, 215-203, in the 14-16 category.

Vizcaya slugfest May 24

AMATEUR boxing at its best will be one of the main features in the celebration of Panagyaman Festival 2005 in the province of Nueva Vizcaya on May 24.

The Go for Gold of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines (Abap) will showcase the talents and skills of its finest male and female boxers in front of the Provincial Capitol starting at 7 p.m., according to event organizer SP board member Teodorico DP Padilla.

The event is supported by Gov. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Vice Gov. Jing Gambito, Mayor Pepito Baigo, Deputy Director General Edu Burgos and ABC President Amado Mangasana.

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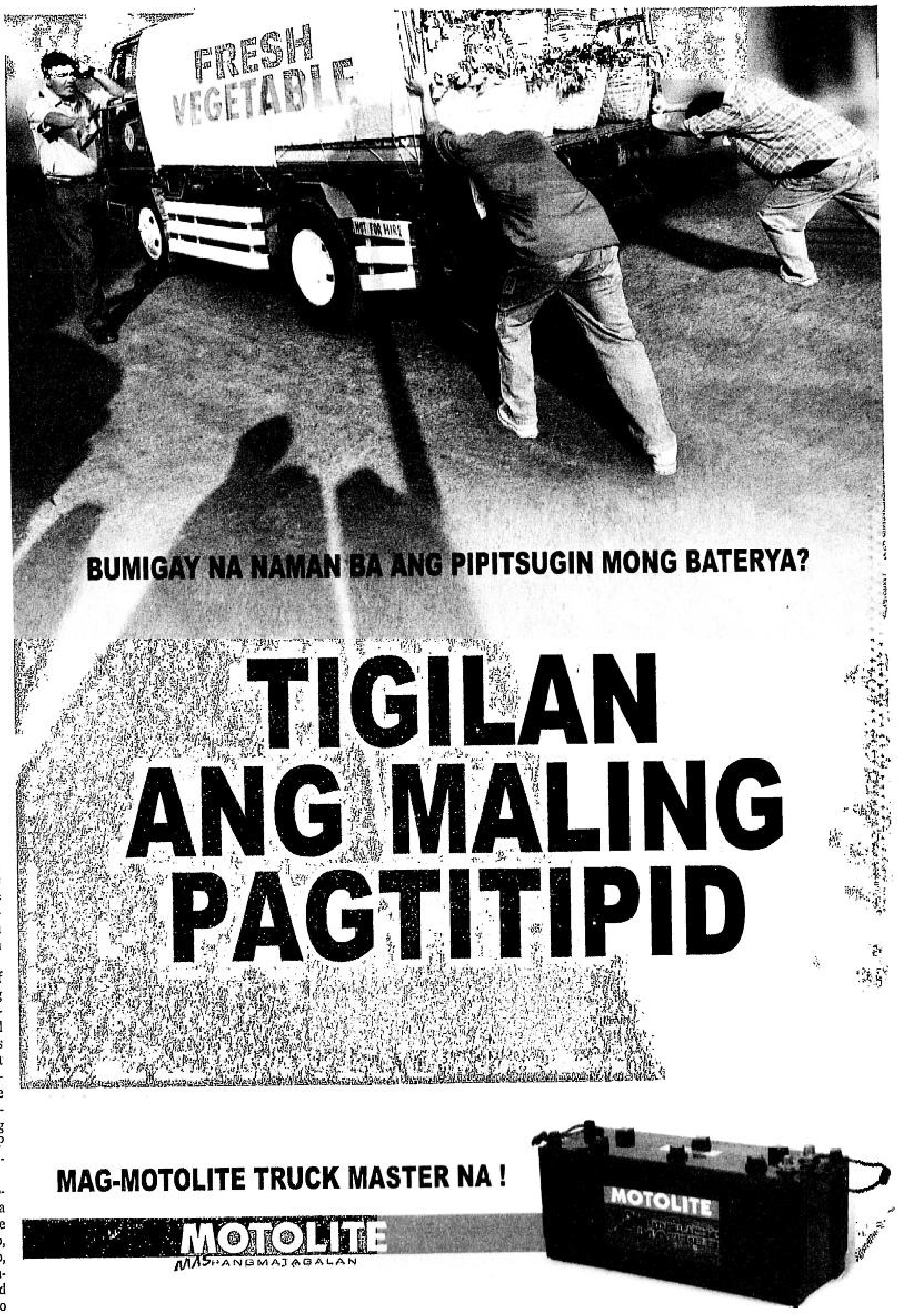
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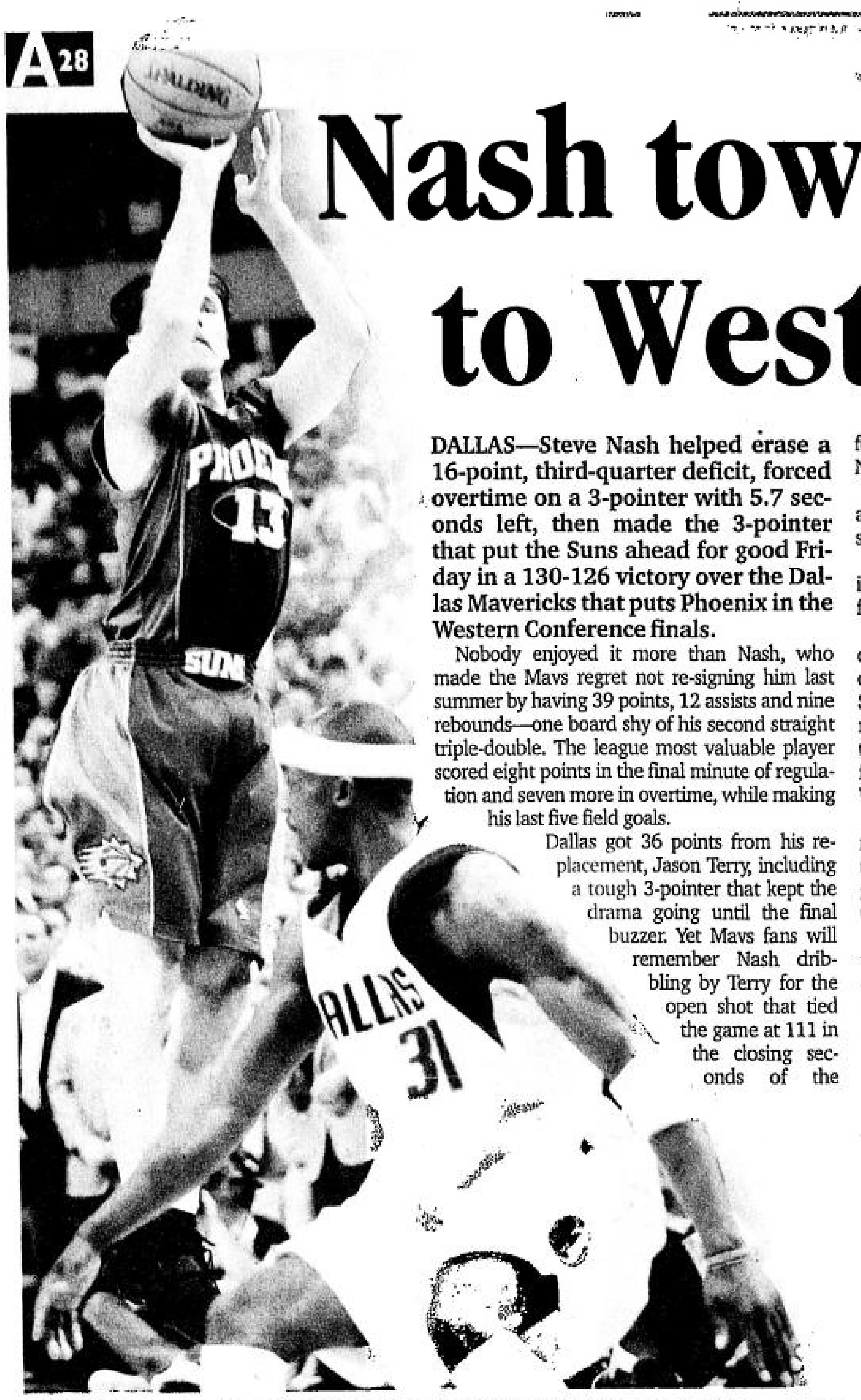


Nash tows Suns to West finals

DALLAS—Steve Nash helped erase a 16-point, third-quarter deficit, forced overtime on a 3-pointer with 5.7 seconds left, then made the 3-pointer that put the Suns ahead for good Friday in a 130-126 victory over the Dallas Mavericks that puts Phoenix in the Western Conference finals.

Nobody enjoyed it more than Nash, who made the Mavs regret not re-signing him last summer by having 39 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds—one board shy of his second straight triple-double. The league most valuable player scored eight points in the final minute of regulation and seven more in overtime, while making his last five field goals.

Dallas got 36 points from his replacement, Jason Terry, including a tough 3-pointer that kept the drama going until the final buzzer. Yet Mavs fans will remember Nash dribbling by Terry for the open shot that tied the game at 111 in the closing seconds of the fourth quarter, then Terry getting berated by Dirk Nowitzki after the buzzer for his lousy defense.

Nowitzki, who had 28 points, 13 rebounds and six assists, found Nash after the game and shared a brief hug.

"They said congratulations and just keep going," Nash said about the postgame hugs from former teammates.

The NBA's highest-scoring team in the last decade, the Suns are trying to become the first offense-driven team to win the title since the Showtime-era Los Angeles Lakers. They've already become the first team to go from missing the playoffs one year and making the conference finals the next since Boston in 2002. The last West team to do it was Phoenix in 1989.

Drained but proud, the Suns will open the next round Sunday at home against the San Antonio Spurs. They even could have back starting guard Joe Johnson, who has been out since Game 2 of this round with an eye injury.

Phoenix has done fine without him, but the wear and tear seemed to be setting in. Suns coach Mike D'Antoni used his bench earlier than ever and for longer stretches. The rest paid off earlier than he expected as his club got into a groove late and pulled out its toughest challenge of the postseason.

"We've always had it in us," Nash said. "We just have to stay hungry."

In becoming the first team to win consecutive games this series, Phoenix went from scoring 64 points the first 32 minutes to racking up 66 in the final 21 minutes. And the Suns did so with Amare Stoudemire capping a poor game by his standards (18 points, six rebounds) by fouling out with 1:40 left in regulation.

Stoudemire had 10 points in the first quarter, then didn't even take a shot in the second. Dallas' defense changed to contain him, but it left open Shawn Marion and he capitalized with a playoff career-best 38 points and 16 rebounds. *AP*

STEVE Nash launches the triple that sent the game to overtime against Jason Terry. REUTERS

Tambunting grabs Montecillo crown

JUSTIN Tambunting overcame a four-hole deficit in the morning round to clinch the boys crown while Bambee dela Paz pulled off a shocking upset in winning the girls plum of The Montecillo Cup: The Philippine Junior Golf Championships at the Legends course of the Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club in Carmona, Cavite.

Tambunting was four behind finals opponent Miko Alejandro after the first 18 holes but won the first three holes of the afternoon round en route to scoring a 2 up win against his Manila Southwoods teammate.

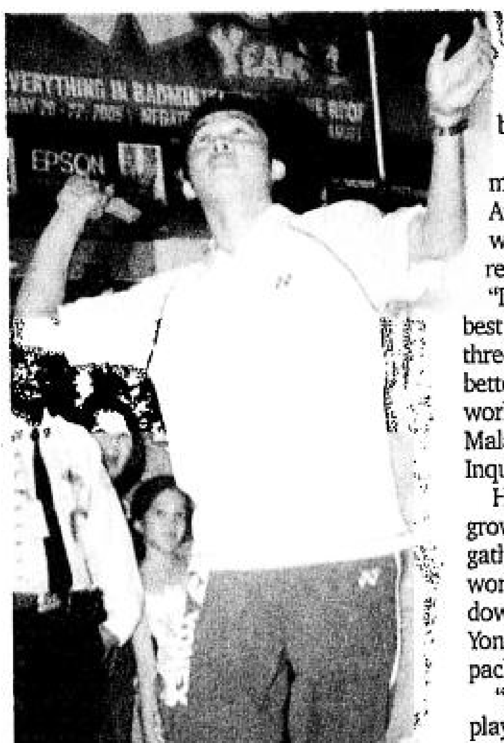
The 17-year-old Tambunting said he doesn't see himself competing in a lot more jungolf events after the summer circuit.

Dela Paz worked her way to a 2 up win against favorite Crystal Superal in the second major leg of the Samsung Jungolf Tour also given major backing by Philippine Airlines with Titleist/Dynamic Sports Corp., Toyota Motor Philippines, Corp., Manila Southwoods and Unilever as minor sponsors.

Amalia Montecillo, in whose honor the tourney was held as part of the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines' 30th year anniversary celebration, awarded the trophies.

Taufik: RP badminton will reach higher level two years from now

By Jasmine W. Payo



TAUFIK Hidayat gets ready to deliver a kill in an exhibition match. ROMY HOMILLADA

THE CANDID assessment came straight from the 2004 Olympic badminton champion.

Taufik Hidayat, the Indonesian men's singles gold medalist in Athens, noted that Filipino players would need a few more years to reach a high competitive level.

"I know Kennevic (Asuncion) is the best player here but I think in two or three years, the Filipino players will be better," said Hidayat, who arrived with world's ninth-seed Hafiz Hashim of Malaysia yesterday exclusively for the Inquirer Badminton Expo.

Hashim took note of badminton's growing popularity here as hundreds gathered to get a glimpse of the two world-class shuttlers in a rare showdown with the RP national team in the Yonex Sports Exhibition Match at the packed Megatrade Hall 2 in Megamall.

"I think there are more Filipinos now playing badminton than two years ago," said the 22-year-old Hashim, who won the 2005 Swiss Open, the All-England Open and the Yonex Open Japan.

Hidayat and Hashim are also among the clear favorites to top the badminton events in the 2005 Southeast Asian Games that will be held here this year.

The two champion athletes, however, said their respective national teams have yet to confirm their participation.

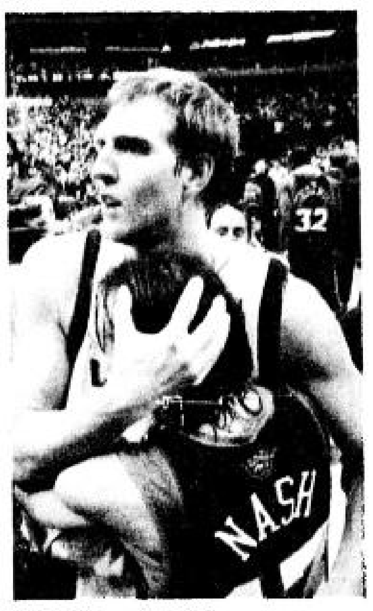
"I'm still waiting for confirmation but I would like to win the gold again," said the 23-year-old Hidayat who bagged a gold in the 1999 Brunei SEA Games.

Meanwhile, four remaining pairs will vie for the title in the Inquirer Badminton Bulilit Tournament today. The champion pair in the 10-years-and-below class will win two Epson Stylus Photo R210, plus Toby's and adidas gift certificates. The runner-up will receive two Epson Stylus C65, and Toby's and adidas gift certificates.

Enthusiasts will also have the last chance to avail of price cutdowns from adidas, Prince, Yonex, Mizuno, Wilson, Victor, Dunlop, Kason, RSL, Carlton and Gosen in this biggest badminton event open to the public.

HASHIM

NATIONAL pool members watch Hidayat and Hashim in action.



BEST friends and former teammates Dirk Nowitzki and Steve Nash hug each other after the game. AP

COJUANGCO CUP

Real Spicy

By Edwin Villanueva
Contributor

NEVER mind if Speed Advantage routed I Spicy in their last outing.

The real drama in the colts' seething riv unfolds today when the 2005 Triple Crown ries blasts off with the Cojuangco Cup at the S ta Ana Park.

Four others are hoping to snare the P1-mil first prize but all eyes will be on Real Spicy Speed Advantage as both try to draw first bl in the opening salvo of the annual three-leg c test for 3-year-old gallopers.

The runup races to this year's Triple Cr were nothing but a two-horse affair involv Speed Advantage and Real Spicy.

Dubious recor

SPE

Al S.
Men

LIPA CITY—To disqualify a golfer, let alone the leader of a tournament, is one of the most difficult decisions to make in the sport and one that shocks the sporting world. That is why when Koji Katoh of Japan got the boot on Friday, it automatically became the top sports story for the day. Katoh was the halfway leader when officials lowered the boom on him.

Katoh was found by the Rules Committee to have moved his ball several times during the second round of the 89th Philippine Open at the Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club. Such an infraction automatically merits disqualification.

"It pains me to disqualify him," said Commodore Danny Pizarro, chair of the tournament committee. "But we have to impose the full force of the law to save the integrity of the Philippine Open. I must respect the recommendation of the Rules Committee to protect the field."

Katoh's downfall began when Tony Lascuña, the many-time national player, informed Taby Tabaniag, the Rules Committee chairman, that he kept seeing Katoh move his ball during play of the second round. Taby and his fellow rules people investigated the incident after the completion of Katoh's round before handing down the decision to disqualify the Japanese, whose flight mates were Lascuna and Roger Won of the United States.

Officials rejected Katoh's denial that he moved his ball, and gave crede testimony of both Lascuna an caddy. Katoh's lady-caddy im admitted that Katoh had move during play of the first hole Even the caddies of Lascuna a Won said they saw Katoh mov several times.

In golf, the word of the play weight when ranged against th two or more persons involv flight.

During investigation, Katol broke down and cried, tremblin mitting that she was nervous d entire play of the second roun of Katoh's intransigence.

I could not remember a time leader of the Philippine Open g ified.

What a way for Koji Katoh t

BF eyes top Nokia slo

BF RESORT Village tries to cap its remarkable showing in the Nokia Intervillage golf series as it guns for the No. 1 spot at the close of the south sector eliminations at Canlubang's south course tomorrow.

With Robert Reyes shooting the maximum score of 40 points under the Stableford scoring system, the BF Resort golfers took charge in the first round of the 36-hole elims exclusively for villages in Parañaque, Las Piñas and Muntinlupa, pooling a 307 and setting the pace for the eight-team field.

But expect the chase for the top three berths to be fierce with Marcelo Green just behind with 303 and Tahanan points farther back with a 301.

Levitown-Don Bosco and United Homes took the next two spots with id tical 297s while Alabang pooled a 29- remain within striking distance al with Pilar Village with 288 and Merv Park with 278.

The event, sponsored by telecommu cations giant Nokia and backed by Boracay, BJ Marthel International, I Pioneer Insurance and Surety Co Atendido Marketing Inc., Sonlie Int'l. I Pisanti golf shirts and TCL Sun, Inc. offers a Buena Vista Club share for a h in-one feat.

Foreigners join 'Camel

THE ARRIVAL of two highly rated international riders will spice up this year's competition in the 2005 Camel Supercross International Championship Series which reels off tomorrow at the Sta. Barbara International Raceway in Iloilo City.

The two—Tadakazu Otsuka of Japan and James Robinson of New Zealand—are expected to give eight-time national champion Glenn Aguilar and the rest of the Filipino campaigners a tough time in this prestigious one-day event sponsored by Camel and sanctioned by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Associa (Namssa).

Robinson and Otsuka will comp in the centerpiece pro open categ Aguilar's turf.

"The presence of the two talen foreign riders makes this year's Ca Supercross Championship Series a more exciting to watch," said JT In national Phils. Brand marketing m ager Edward Cruz.

After the Iloilo leg, the Camel Su cross International Championship ries will visit the Talisay Stadium in colod City on June 19.

Aguilar powers Revtex

GLENN Aguilar and Kenneth San Andres led the mighty charge of the powerhouse Revtex Motocross Team, which stamped its dominance in the 2nd Vigan Motocross Challenge and the 4th San Fabian Invitational Motocross Championships recently.

Aguilar, the 2003 Asia-Pacific champion, was impressive in both the premier Pro Open and Pro 125 categories of the Vigan meet, which he both ruled in grand fashion, with his Revtex teammates Bebet dela Cruz and San An making it a 1-2-3 finish for the co try's top motocross team.

"We were a cut above the rest cause of the world-class Revtex oil we're using in our engines," reve Aguilar.

San Andres swept the Expert Op first and second heats, with his Re teammates Geovani Leyba and Joh Garcia placing second and third.

RP finally gets first Olympic gold medal–via internet auction

LAS VEGAS—Anthony Ervin has done well as a swimmer, though you might not know it by the way he lives his life.

He rents a room in a San Francisco Bay area town house, drives a 15-year-old Toyota Camry, and has a drawer full of socks with holes in them.

Ervin also has an Olympic gold medal, which he won in the pool five years ago in Sydney, tying his teammate and friend Gary Hall for first in the 50-meter freestyle.

He won't have it much longer, after selling it this month in an auction on eBay.

A man in the Philippines bought it, bidding $17,100 for the medal that represents the greatest moment of Ervin's career. The man's plans for it are hazy, though Ervin says he believes the man is a fan of his and is starting a swimming club.

The plans for the proceeds are much more clear. Ervin is giving it all to UNICEF for tsunami relief.

"I don't really have any money or any kind of clout other than an Olympic medal," he said. "I just thought I should give something back. I've gotten so much already."

Ervin isn't alone in that. Millions of other Americans took money out of their pockets to contribute to relief and rebuilding efforts from the Dec. 26 disaster that killed at least 126,000 people in Indonesia and another 48,000 in 10 other countries.

None, though, sold an Olympic gold medal to make a donation.

"Most people, mostly my friends, just thought I was crazy," Ervin said. "But a lot of them at the same time thought it was the right thing to do. My family did as well, although they balked at me doing it at first."

Ervin began forming the outlines of a charity idea even before the tsunami hit, when he was on a trip to Japan in December with Hall and coach Gary Bottoms to do swimming clinics. He retired from competitive swimming before the 2004 Olympics in Athens, but ing around children at the clinics rekindle interest in the sport.

Ervin checked around and found flooding was a problem in Japan and o countries. With the connection to wate thought he would try some way to tie h flood victims with his return to swimming

A few weeks later, the tsunami hit and came up with the idea of selling his medal.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

, Speed Advantage square off today

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Speed Advantage won their first meeting, the protest-marred Chairman's Cup in March, but Real Spicy unleashed a dramatic down-the-wire charge to steal the Crown Prince Abdullah Cup last month.

Without any one to contend with, Speed Advantage took the first leg of the Road to the Triple Crown, while Real Spicy claimed the second.

Both clashed anew in a regular race last May 4 and Speed Advantage blew Real Spicy away over 1,450 meters.

But top jockeys Pat Dilema and Fernando Raquel Jr. both believe that the real battle will begin in this afternoon's showdown over one mile (1,600 meters).

"*Dito na siguro magkakaalaman. Sana suwertehin tayo* (This is the moment of truth. I hope luck is on our side)," said Dilema, who'll be mounting Real Spicy.

The Hermie Esguerra entry, a son of 1998 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes winner Real Quiet, tested the route a week ago and turned in 1:41.5 with still a lot of speed left.

On the other hand, Speed Advantage also had plenty in reserve in his recent workout, covering the distance in 1:46.5.

"*Maganda ang kundisyon niya* (He's in good condition)," said Raquel, referring to Speed Advantage of the Yutadco Stable. "*Tingin ko si Real Spicy na rin ang dapat bantayan* (I think we'll have to keep close watch on Real Spicy).

Likewise entered in the race set to be flagged off at 5:25 p.m. are Speed Majesty, War Alert, Tiger Song and In Command.

"Real Spicy's in top shape," Esguerra said of his prized colt. "I think it's going to be a very good race, a great matchup against Speed Advantage."

Speed Majesty, who figured prominently in Real Spicy's loss in the Chairman's Cup, is expected to play rabbit again for Speed Advantage but the filly Tiger Song, who is on a 4-race winning roll, as well as War Alert, may apply early pressure.

Cover Girl topped last year's Cojuangco Cup, while Empire King captured the OngpIn Cup and Horseman's Cup.

Second to fourth placers in the event will get P376,750, P209,250 and P84,000, respectively.

RACING TIPS

Race tips for Sun., May 22, 2005

Race 1—1. Friendly Venture 2. Better Strike 3. Sir Pierre
Race 2—1. Princess Dancer 2. Noble House 3. Decidido 4. Native Talent
Race 3—1. Sea King 2. Silver Cho Cho 3. Brazen Truth 4. Schwarzenegger
Race 4—1. Sincerity 2. Genie in Disguise 3. Yao Man 4. Da Mik Mok 5. Orly Burly
Race 5—1. You and Me 2. Kiss Me Quick 3. Collective Dreams 4. Front Page
Race 6—1. Quick Pick 2. Magic Buller 3. Hello Africa 4. Gelay's Charm
Race 7—1. Real Spicy/War Alert 2. Speed Advantage/Speed Majesty
Race 8—1. Mr. Lucas 2. Dazzling Affair 3. Cash McCall 4. Tenacity
Race 9—1. Lamborghini/Ocean Deep 2. Thywillbedone 3. Vivere 4. U Are My Sunshine
Race 10—1. Smokin' Red 2. Reigns Supreme 3. Burst of Speed 4. Battle Hero
Race 11—1. Streisand 2. Dark Beat 3. Bukambibig 4. Smooth Strike
Race 12—1. Fine Offer 2. Close Account 3. Best in Class 4. Coolmore
Race 13—1. Reign of Roses 2. Super Top 3. Fantasia 4. St. Jek Jek 5. Divine Right 6. Manileño

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The embattled Francisco "Pingkoy" Duque III, whose appointment as Health Secretary is under fire from the critics of GMA, has found a staunch ally in Gil Cuaresma. Manong Gil, a six-term vice mayor of Mangatarem, Pangasinan, has strongly endorsed Pingkoy to the DOH post in a well-applauded speech on Thursday, May 19, at the Region I seminar on health hosted by Ernie Beltran at Lennox Hotel in Dagupan City.

"He (Duque) is the best man for the position," said Manong Gil, a bosom buddy of my kumpadre, the former Congressman Teddy Cruz. "I am familiar with Pingkoy's work ethics and his integrity is beyond reproach."

The endorsement, spoken before a throng of delegates from the Ilocos region, is commendable because Manong Gil, an incumbent councilor and the chairman of the Sangguniang Bayan health and sanitation committee, is an oppositionist. Meaning, he was not in the party of the appointing power during the last elections.

"We cross party lines if the national interest is at stake," said Manong Gil, who ran under the party of the late FPJ in the May polls. "I will never hesitate to endorse an opponent if I feel that he deserves the position being offered to him."

I've known Manong Gil since I was a kid. He is a sports enthusiast, whose favorite sport is lifting weights.

A witty fellow whom my late father had loved like his own brother, Manong Gil loves to unleash one-liners. A favorite line of his is, "I lift all kinds of weights, but my favorite is the one filled with spirit."

* * *

FASTBREAK. The Philippine Open organizing committee headed by Admiral Luisito F. Fernandez salutes Mayor Digong Duterte of Davao City for "lending" Cris Ramos, one of his most trusted men, to the Open. Cris, who was formerly general manager of the Philippine Navy Golf Club, worked virtually round the clock for four days in helping ensure the safety of key personnel involved in the 89th edition of the fabled Open, which ends today at the baby of Manong Tony Turalba—the beautiful Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa City.

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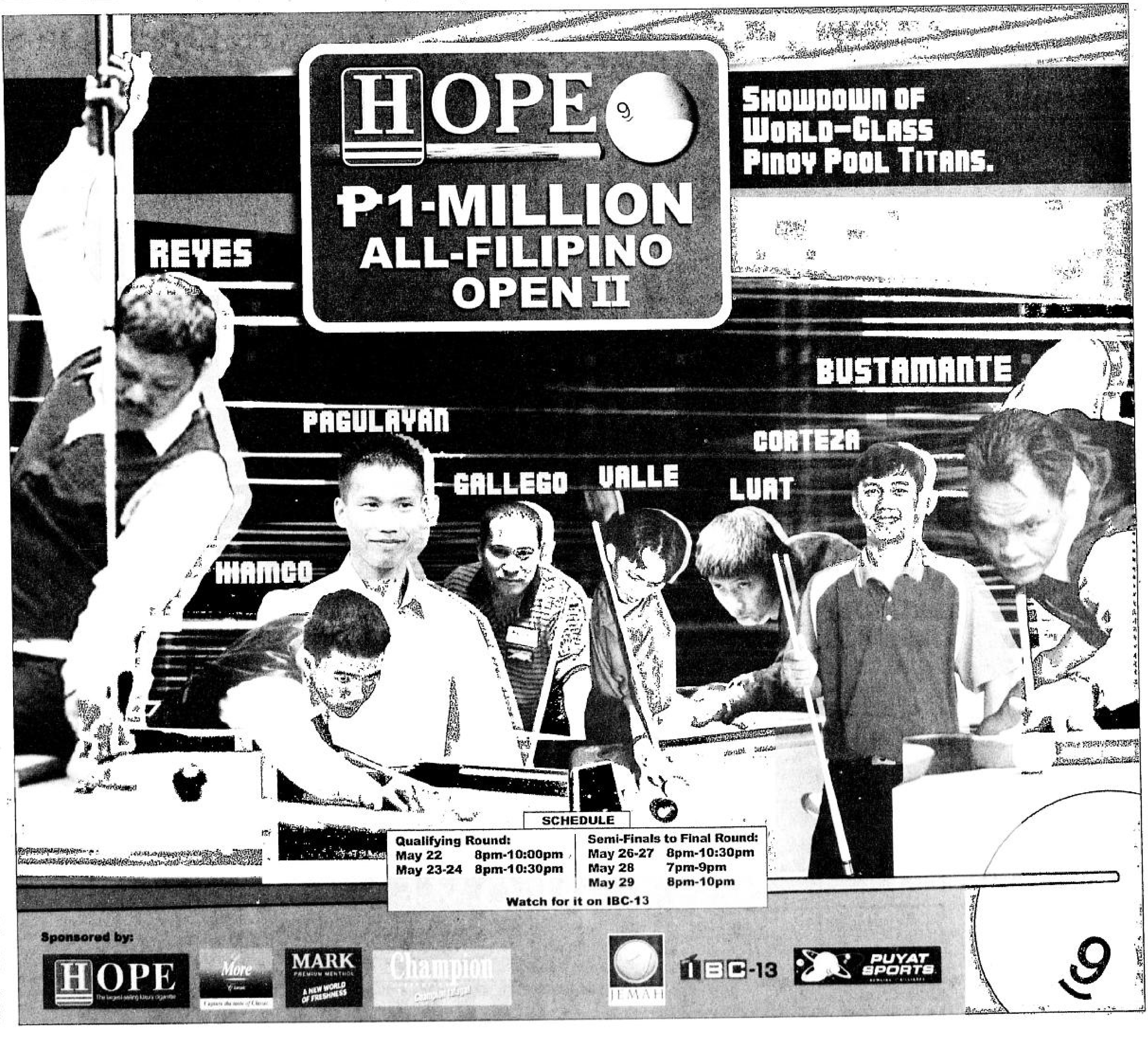
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		May 29	8pm-10pm

Watch for it on IBC-13

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Japan stint for 6 young RP tankers

By Marc Reyes

JAPAN'S top swimming club has invited the country's most promising tankers to compete in "The Flying Fish Cup" which showcases the world's best age-groupers in August.

The Hamanawan Swimming Association yesterday extended its invitation for an all-expense paid trip to six Filipino age-group standouts.

"This experience will rock their world (RP swimmers)," said Philippine Amateur Swimming Association president Mark Joseph during the breakfast presentation at the Manila Polo Club. "Their concept of competition will definitely change considering that most of them will be competing abroad for the very first time."

HSA chief director Yasuhisa Fujiwara and Chunichi Shimbun's events planning manager Masanori Matsuda said the Filipino swimmers were selected by RP's Japanese coach Kyuko Ishigawa.

The RP bets will be led by Palarong Pambansa four-gold medalist Jasmine Al-Khaldi, who at 11 years old is already being touted as the next Akiko Thomson.

Joining her are Palaro champ Gian Berino, cousins Joaquin and Celina Gonzales of Davao, Whitney Dy and Bianca Ilustre.

The annual event, which marks its 20th year on Aug. 6-7, is held in honor of Japanese swimming legend Hirosmin Furuhashi, who is now the vice president of the international swimming federation or Fina.

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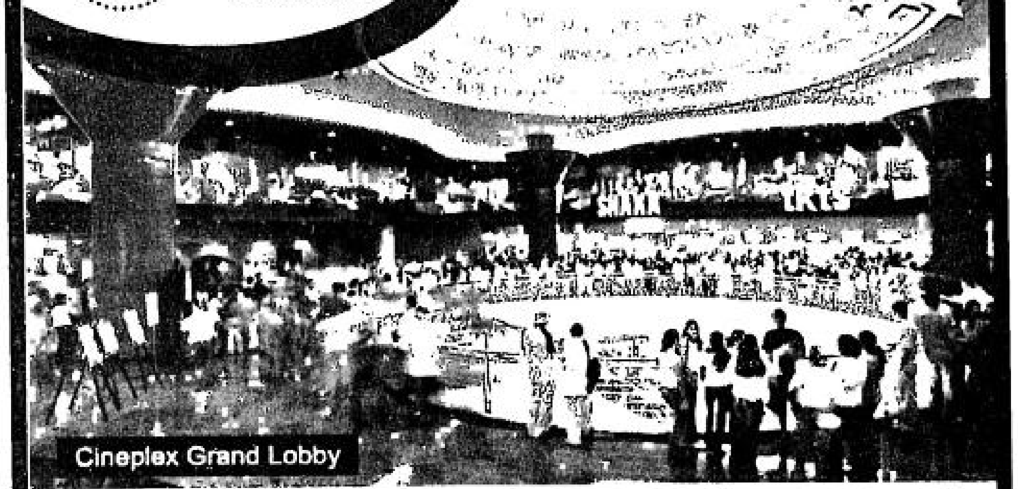
2 BIKINI OPEN

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
Voted Best Movie Theater
-Philippine Daily Inquirer's 2004 Yearend Reader Survey
For inquiries, call: 687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
1 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH 12:35, 3:35, 6:35, 9:35 GP
2 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH 11:05, 2:05, 5:05, 8:05, 11:05 GP
3 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH 10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20 GP
4 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH 11:50, 2:50, 5:50, 8:50 GP

Araneta Center Leisure Guide



Cineplex Grand Lobby
CINEMA SCHEDULES
Gateway CinePlex*10 LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL
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KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 12:40 / 3:40 / 6:40 / 9:40
BIKINI OPEN 1:25 / 4:00 / 6:35 / 9:10
IN GOOD COMPANY 1:20 / 4:00 / 6:40 / 9:20
AMITYVILLE HORROR 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30
STAR WARS - EPISODE III
1:50 / 4:50 / 7:50 / 10:50
11:50 / 2:50 / 5:50 / 8:50
1:00 / 4:00 / 7:00 / 10:00
12:30 / 3:30 / 6:30 / 9:30
12:25 / 3:25 / 6:25 / 9:25
GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA
Pre-Opening Screenings P 249 / P299
STAR WARS - EPISODE III 1:10 / 4:10 / 7:10 / 10:10
ALI MALL CINEMAS
① STAR WARS - EPISODE III 11:35 / 2:35 / 5:35 / 8:35
② BIKINI OPEN 12:15 / 2:50 / 5:25 / 8:00
③ KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 11:30 / 2:30 / 5:30 / 8:30
④ XXX 2: THE NEXT LEVEL 1:00 / 3:20 / 5:40 / 8:00
⑤ AMITYVILLE HORROR 11:40 / 1:50 / 4:00 / 6:10 / 8:20
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS
ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE May 22 4:15pm Fedex vs. Coca Cola / 6:35pm Purefoods vs. Sta Lucia
ASHANTI LIVE IN MANILA May 26, Thursday, 8pm
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE May 25 4:45pm Ginebra vs. Fedex / 7:35pm Red Bull vs. San Miguel
2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE May 27 4:45pm San Miguel vs. Fedex / 7:35pm Talk N Text vs. Ginebra
CENTER EVENTS
ALI MALL — So Shoe Me: The Mother Of All Shoe Festivals featuring a mallwide shoe fair, Imelda Shoe Exhibit and RP's first giant "shoe-on-wheels" ongoing until June 15.
FARMERS PLAZA — Back-To-School Fair with big, big discounts on everything you'll need for the new school year ongoing until June 15 at the Lower Ground Floor Activity Area.
GATEWAY MALL — Cool Jazz Cool Classics featuring performances by Cadio, Lynn Sherman and Affinity with Cooky Chua on May 20, 21 and 22 at the Gateway Pavilion.
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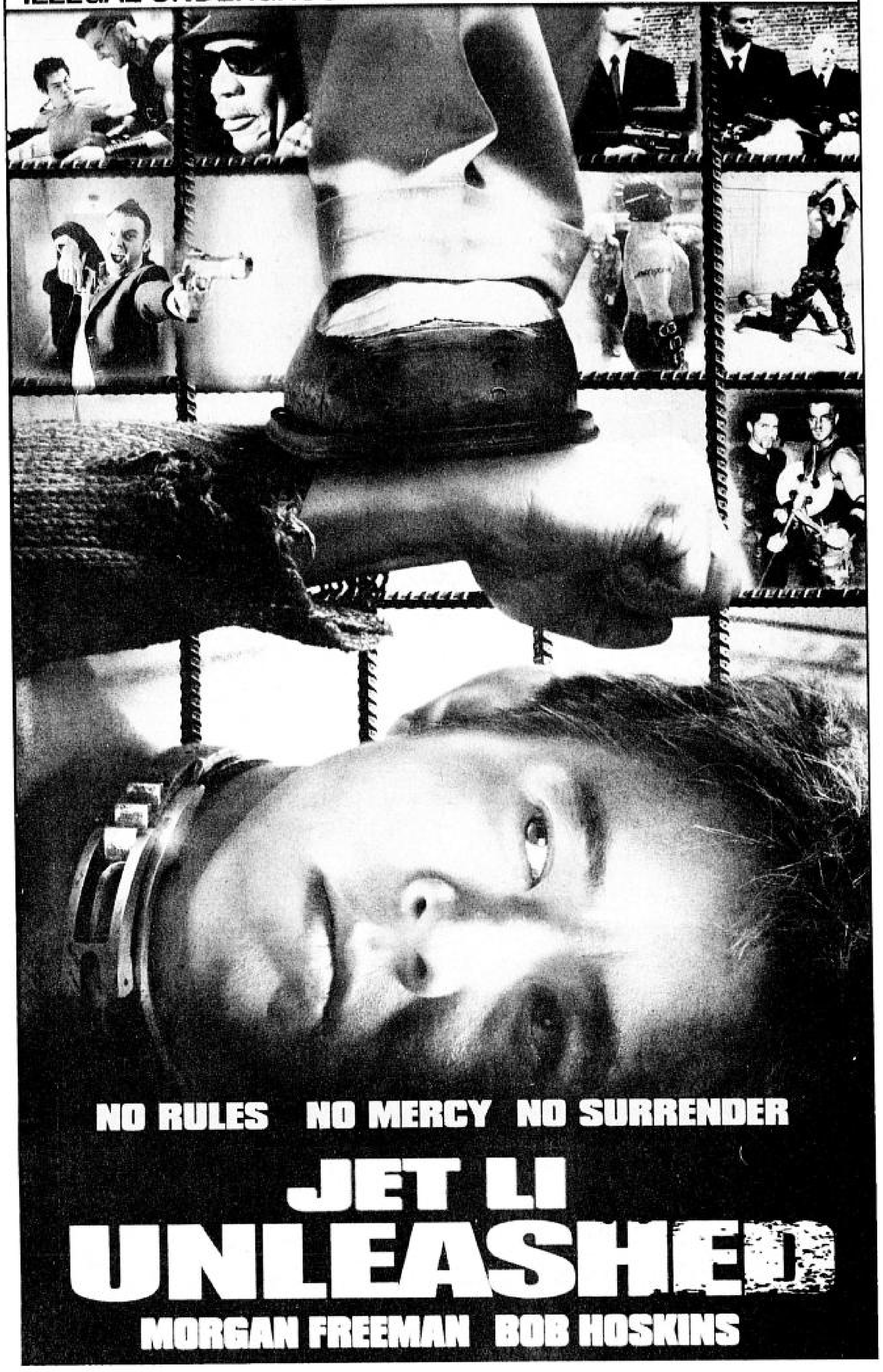

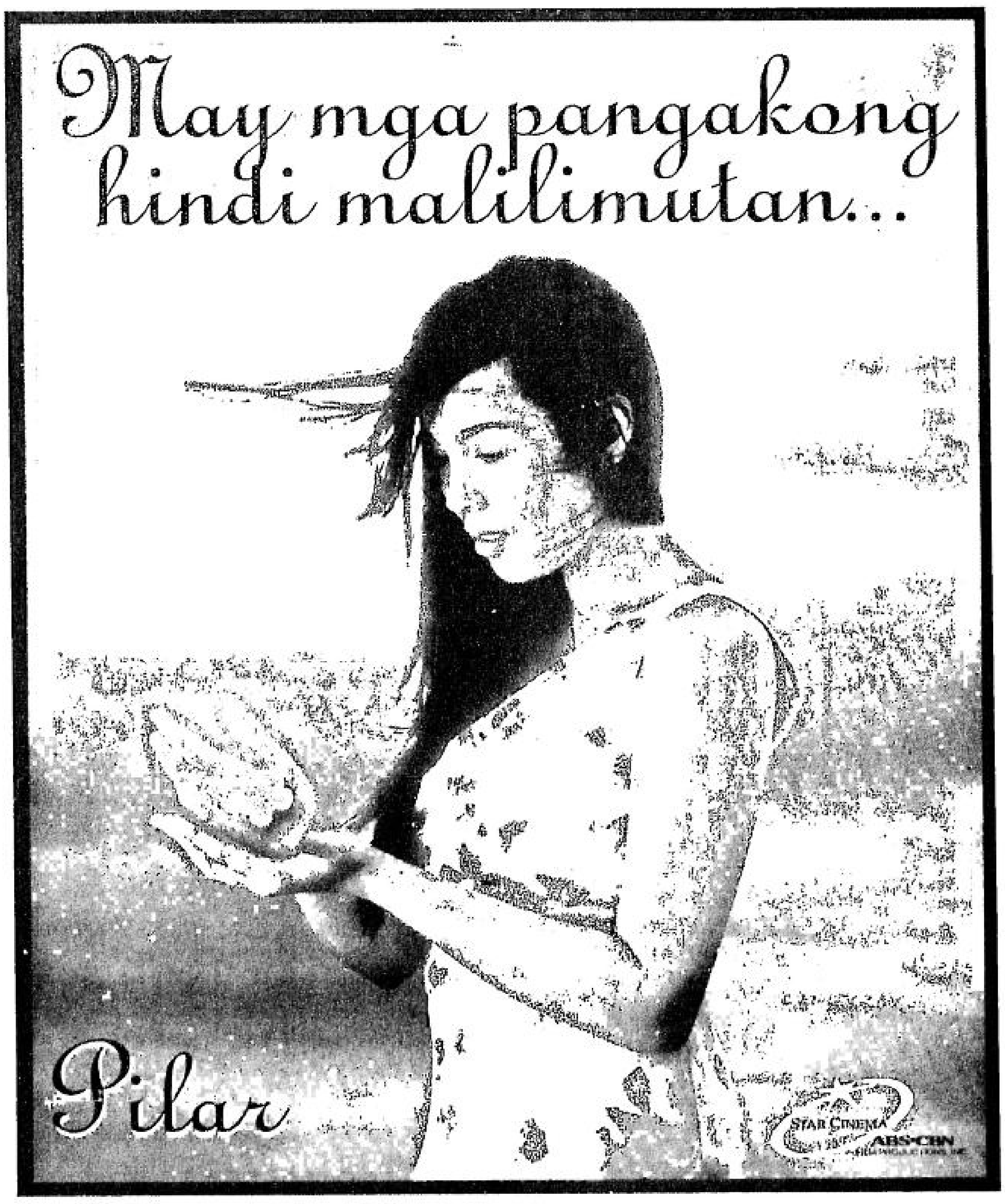
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STAR WARS
EPISODE III

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RANTEED SEATS

the podium cinema

1. STAR WARS III
11:00 FS / 11:30 MP / 3:10 / 4:50 / 7:30
9:40 LFS / 10:10 LMF / 12:20 END

2. STAR WARS III
11:40 FS / 12:10 MP / 2:50 / 5:30 / 8:10
10:20 LFS / 11:00 LMF / 1:10 END

☎ 833-4879

sm megamall cinema 1

STAR WARS: EPISODE III

☎ 633-1901

sm manila cinema 6

STAR WARS: EPISODE III
10:10 FS / 10:25 MF / 1:10 / 3:55 / 6:40
3:05 LFS / 3:25 LMF / 12:05 END

☎ 523-8240

sm cebu cinema

CINEMA 1: GLOBE GIZMO CINEMANIA
NATIONAL TREASURE - 11:15
FINDING NEMO - 3:45
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 5:45
THE INCREDIBLES - 9:15

CINEMA 3: STAR WARS: EPISODE III
10:50 FS / 11:00 MF / 1:30 / 4:16 / 6:53
9:13 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:50 END

☎ (032) 231-3878

METRO MANILA

sm megamall

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 AMITYVILLE HORROR
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 STAR WARS: EPISODE III
5 CAN THIS BE LOVE
6 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
7 RESERVED
8 RESERVED
9 RESERVED
10 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
11 TRUMPETS
12 BIKINI OPEN

sm city fairview

1 STAR WARS: EPISODE III
2 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
3 ARE WE THERE YET?
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
5 BIKINI OPEN
6 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
7 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
8 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
9 CAN THIS BE LOVE
10 THE PACIFIER
11 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
12 IN GOOD COMPANY

sm city north edsa

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 RESERVED
4 xXx 2 : THE NEXT LEVEL
5 BIKINI OPEN
6 AMITYVILLE HORROR
7 STAR WARS: EPISODE III
8 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

sm city manila

1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 AMITYVILLE HORROR
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
5 POOH HEFFALUMP MOVIE
6 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
7 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
8 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
9 CAN THIS BE LOVE
10 THE WEDDING DATE
11 IN GOOD COMPANY
12 BIKINI OPEN

sm city sta. mesa

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BIKINI OPEN
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 RESERVED
5 RESERVED
6 CAN THIS BE LOVE
7 AMTIVYLLE HORROR
8 IN GOOD COMPANY
9 STAR WARS: EPISODE III
10 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

sm city southmall

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
5 xXx 2 :THE NEXT LEVEL
6 CAN THIS BE LOVE
7 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
8 BIKINI OPEN
9 AMITYVILLE HORROR
10 KINDOM OF HEAVEN

sm city bicutan

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BIKINI OPEN
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

sm cinema tutuban

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

sm supercenter sucat

1 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
2 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 BIKINI OPEN

LUZON

sm city pampanga

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 CAN THIS BE LOVE
5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
6 BIKINI OPEN

sm city baguio

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BOOGEYMAN
3 BIKINI OPEN
4 STAR WARS: EPISODE III

sm city batangas

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BIKINI OPEN
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 BOOGEYMAN

sm city dasmariñas

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BIKINI OPEN
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

sm city marilao

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BIKINI OPEN
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

sm city bacoor

1 ANG LAGUSAN
2 AMITYVILLE HORROR
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
5 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
6 BIKINI OPEN
7 CAN THIS BE LOVE
8 IN GOOD COMPANY

sm city lucena

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE
2 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
3 BIKINI OPEN
4 ALONE IN THE DARK

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu

1 GLOBE GIZMO
2 RESERVED
3 STAR WARS : EPISODEIII
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
5 SIX
6 HONEY
7 BIKINI OPEN
8 STAR WARS : EPISODEIII

sm city iloilo

1 THE INTERPRETER
2 RESERVED
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 SAHARA
5 SIX
6 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
7 RESERVED
8 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

sm city davao

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
3 BIKINI OPEN
4 GUESS WHO
5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
6 STAR WARS: EPISODE III

sm city cagayan de oro

1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BOOGEYMAN
3 SAHARA
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Are We THERE Yet?

Are We THERE Yet?

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We know how cute and fun-loving kids are. But we also know how naughty they are. Want to share your most Unforgettable moment with a kid? In not more than 300 words, tell us what this kid said or did to you.

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GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
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AYALA CINEMAS

AYALA CINEMAS THX

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	2	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	3	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	4	BIKINI OPEN	
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	2	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	3 THX	STAR WARS EP. 3	12:10, 3:00, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
	4	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN	
	5	AMITYVILLE HORROR	
	6	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	7	STAR WARS EP. 3	
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1	STAR WARS EP. 3	12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 8:15
	2	STAR WARS EP. 3	1:15, 4:05, 6:55,9:00
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX	STAR WARS EP. 3	10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10 GUARANTEED SEATS
	2 THX	STAR WARS EP. 3	1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40 GUARANTEED SEATS
	3	STAR WARS EP. 3	12:15, 3:05, 5:55, 8:45, 11:35 GUARANTEED SEATS
	4	STAR WARS EP. 3	11:50, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS
	5	STAR WARS EP. 3	11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40 GUARANTEED SEATS
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	2	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	3	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	4	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	5	STAR WARS EP. 3	
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	2	STAR WARS EP. 3	
	3	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN	
	4	BIKINI OPEN	

THE SAGA CONTINUES IN ALL AYALA CINEMAS

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AYALA CINEMAS

STAR WARS
EPISODE III
REVENGE OF THE SITH

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Customer Service text hotline: Glorietta - 752 7272, from 10am to 8pm
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Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

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2	Kingdom of Heaven
3	Bikini Open
4	Can This Be Love

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

5	Star Wars Episode III
6	Star Wars Episode III
7	Star Wars Episode III

EVENTS! EVENTS!

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FOR ALL BRANCHES

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GALLERIA 632-9116/16

1 STAR WARS Episode III • THX 11:10 2:00 4:50 7:40 10:30	6 STAR WARS Episode III 1:00 3:50 6:40 9:30
2 STAR WARS Episode III 10:40 1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00	7 IN GOOD COMPANY 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
3 STAR WARS Episode III 12:30 3:20 6:10 9:00	8 AMITYVILLE HORROR 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
4 GUESS WHO 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00	9 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 12:30 3:40 6:50 10.00
5 BIKINI OPEN 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00	10 XXX 2 12:30 3:00 5:30 7:50 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 STAR WARS Episode III	11:05 1:50 4:35 7:20 10:05
2 IN GOOD COMPANY 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:50	5 STAR WARS Episode III 11:55 2:40 5:25 8:10
3 AMITYVILLE HORROR 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50	6 BIKINI OPEN 10:30 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 10:30 1:20 4:10 7:00 9:50	7 STAR WARS Episode III 10:20 1:05 3:50 6:35 9:20

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 IN GOOD COMPANY 11:30 1:50 4:10 6:30 9:00	5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 11:40 2:40 5:40 9:00
2 HEAD IN THE CLOUDS 11:20 1:40 4:00 6:30 9:00	6 AMITYVILLE HORROR 10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
3 STAR WARS Episode III 11:40 2:35 5:30 8:30	7 STAR WARS Episode III 10:40 1:35 4:30 7:25 10:30
4 BIKINI OPEN 10:25 1:05 3:45 6:25 9:05	8 STAR WARS Episode III 12:40 3:35 6:30 9:30

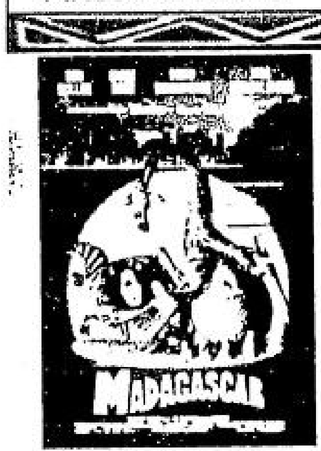
NOVALICHES 935-3229/31

1 STAR WARS Episode III 11:20 2:20 5:20 8:25	5 STAR WARS Episode III 10:50 1:50 4:50 7:50
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 11:20 2:20 5:20 8:25	6 RESERVE
3 BIKINI OPEN 11:15 1:45 4:15 6:45 9:00	7 IN GOOD COMPANY 11:30 1:40 3:50 6:10 8:30
4 AMITYVILLE HORROR 12:30 2:30 4:30 6:30 8:30	8 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 STAR WARS Episode III	3 BIKINI OPEN
2 STAR WARS Episode III	4 AMITYVILLE HORROR

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575	CAINTA 240-4661
1 SAMARA RING 2	1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 STAR WARS Episode III	2 BIKINI OPEN
3 STAR WARS Episode III	3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 TAGOS SA LAMAN	4 STAR WARS Episode III



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MAY 22	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA
MAY 30	Robinsons Movieworld NOVALICHES
MAY 31	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA
JUNE 02	Robinsons Movieworld ERMITA
JUNE 03	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA

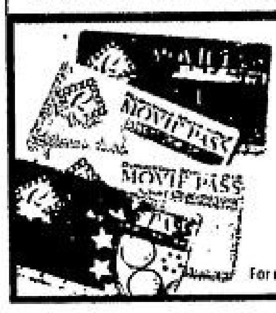
See them LIVE at 5:00 PM

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907	LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870
1 STAR WARS Episode III	1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 STAR WARS Episode III	2 STAR WARS Episode III
3 BIKINI OPEN	3 THE PACIFIER
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN	4 BIKINI OPEN
5 THE INTERPRETER	5 THE INTERPRETER

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332	ANGELES (045) 892-2348
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN	1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 TAGOS SA LAMAN	2 THE INTERPRETER
3 STAR WARS Episode III	3 BIKINI OPEN
4 BIKINI OPEN	4 STAR WARS Episode III
5 STAR WARS Episode III	

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188	STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-5270
1 STAR WARS Episode III	1 SIX
2 STAR WARS Episode III	2 BIKINI OPEN
3 HEAD IN THE CLOUDS	3 GUESS WHO
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN	4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
5 BIKINI OPEN	5 STAR WARS Episode III
6 IN GOOD COMPANY	6 STAR WARS Episode III

BACOLOD (034) 441-0453 (034) 441-0459	ILOILO (033) 336-8070
1 STAR WARS Episode III	1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN	2 THE INTERPRETER
3 STAR WARS Episode III	3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 SAHARA	4 STAR WARS Episode III
5 THE WEDDING DATE	5 SAHARA
6 THE INTERPRETER	6 THE WEDDING DATE



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Editor Emmie G. Velarde

Jasmine Trias bets on Bo

The Pinay American Idol dishes out a mouthful on Paula Abdul, Corey Clark and ... Simon Cowell

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

JASMINE Trias, the Filipino-American finalist on last year's "American Idol," couldn't believe it when she heard about juror Paula Abdul's alleged affair with Corey Clark, a failed contestant in the first season.

"It's horrible," she told some media people gathered at her hotel suite for a contract signing with Universal Records, which will produce her Philippine album. "I feel sorry for Paula. It's terrible. That guy Corey Clark is trying to stage a comeback and make a name with this scandal. I think it's because he has an album [and a book] coming out."

Jasmine defended Paula to the hilt. "I don't believe it. Paula is so sweet. I don't think she will do anything like that!"

She also has kind words for Mr. Nasty, er, Simon Cowell.

"He's actually nice—maybe it's because I am no longer on the show!" She laughed throatily.

Take it from one who's been there.

She didn't get to talk to Simon when she caught the show live a week ago.

"We didn't have that much contact with the judges even when we were contestants," she revealed. "The only time we saw them was during the Tuesday and Wednesday shows. I know that the producers portrayed it as if we knew them personally ... [but in fact] they were kept away from us."

That's another reason why she couldn't fathom the Paula-Corey scuttlebutt.

Reality check

She gave reporters another reality check about reality TV. "I saw how it worked. The producers play a big role. They kinda manipulate it somehow. The voting is real, but they control the show, in terms of the selection of the shots and how Ryan Seacrest would do his spiels and all that stuff."

For this season, she is placing her bets on the rocker from Alabama.

"I honestly think it's going to be Bo [Bice]," she said. "He takes the stage by storm! Wow! Onstage, its like he's already the new American Idol. He's awesome!"

Did she detect sparks between Bo and main contender Carrie Underwood?

Not really, she shrugged. "Carrie is country and Bo is rock. Those are two different worlds."

But don't opposites attract? "That's true," she conceded. "Who knows?"

Toughened up

On "AI," she said, she had learned to expect the unexpected. "When I watched the show live last week, it brought a lot of memories. But it was cool ... because I got to see it from the audience's perspective."

The biggest lesson of her "AI" journey, she said, was patience. "I grew up really quick. I learned so much about myself. I became stronger as a person."

Believe it or not, Sarcastic Simon was a big help. "Simon's comments made me thick-skinned to criticism. It made me tougher."

Soon to be launched is her R&B debut, which will be released by Clockwork Entertainment in the United States and by Universal Records in the Philippines.

(There will be four homegrown tracks in the local version—including two Tagalog songs, one of which is by OPM hitmaker Vehnee Saturno.)

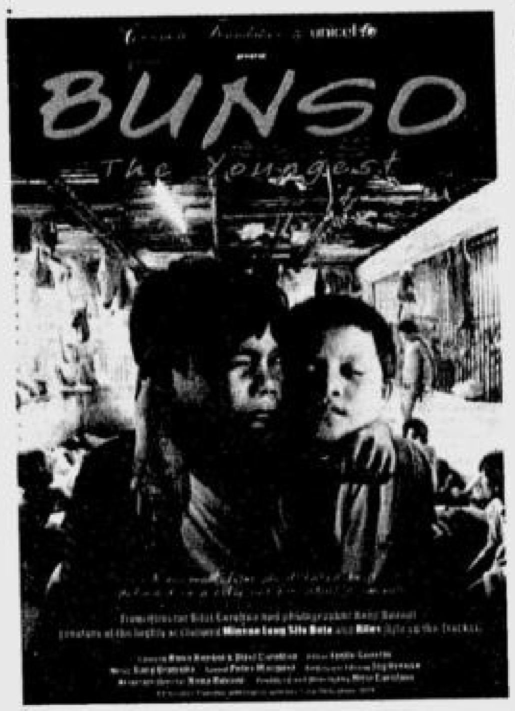
There is also a planned Hollywood movie entitled "All-Girl Band" with sisters Hilary and Haylie Duff.

"I'll play the drummer," Jasmine said. "I'll take acting and drum-playing lessons back in the States."

But before taking that big plunge, she's set to watch the "AI" finals at the Kodak Theater in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

She concluded: "Although I think it'll be Bo's night, I'll be cheering all of [the finalists] when they go onstage."

JASMINE is set to star in a Hollywood movie with Hilary Duff.



'Bunso' bags Best Director award in Prague

By Claire Agbayani
Contributor

FILIPINO filmmaker Ditsi Carolino won the Best Director award for her riveting documentary film, "Bunso," at the recently concluded One World '05—the 7th Annual International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival in Prague.

Carolino shared the award with Pirjo Honkasalo of Finland ("Three Rooms of Melancholia").

"Bunso" is a disturbing documentary film about three boys Tony, Itsoy and Diosel, aged 11 to 13, who are detained in a jail for adult criminals. It is an immersion into prison life, with many poignant moments from the boys who speak their truth with innocence and street smarts, pain and humor.

The citation of the festival Grand Jury states, "With the Best Director Award, the jury wishes to honor two very different styles of documentary filmmaking, both addressing the situation of chil-

'BUNSO'/A2-2

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Mall shows: SM Fairview (May 22, 4pm) • SM Pampanga (May 28, 1pm) • Glorietta (June 3, 5pm)

From hero to zero

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE FINAL "Star Wars" film, "Revenge of the Sith," is so eagerly awaited that some diehard fans in the States have plunked down a whopping $500 each for the privilege of being among the first to see the last episode. Top tickets on Broadway go for "only" $100, so you can appreciate the extreme excitement over the "Star Wars" finale.

Even more impressive is the price of a "VIP" ticket to the movie's premiere—$2,500! Well, it's all going to charity so it's money well-spent.

(Still—$2,500?!)

Just goes to show how strongly the "Star Wars" film franchise has impinged on viewers' collective consciousness. If you ask us, the movie series draws its unique power to move, dazzle and inspire millions from its revival of heroic values at a period in human history when heroes have been replaced by "zeroes."

Taking its psychic cue from medieval tales of kings, knights and knaves, and cannily transposing them to the distant future, series creator **George Lucas**' collective masterwork has effectively reminded today's viewers that, although the times have become dauntingly complicated, life and our life choices still boil down to the endless fight between good and evil.

So, heroism can never be passe, because it continues to be called for to this day. That's the challenge that Lucas' series poses for viewers, particularly to jaded youths who want to be cinematically inspired to go back to the quintessential basics of human aspirations and behavior.

Lucas also gains the attention and respect of modern-day viewers by refusing to give them black-and-white renditions of good and evil. They know that such facile stereotyping is a lie, and appreciate the filmmaker's ability to show life as it really is: as a complex combination of occasionally contradictory psychological and moral impulses.

Nowhere is this realistic approach so compellingly limned as in the story of Anakin Skywalker, the young hero who is later transmogrified into the fearsome Darth Vader.

Quite correctly, therefore, Lucas chooses to end his storytelling with an episode that shows how this final character change is tragically effected. Thus, viewers' collective "Star Wars" experience ends as a cautionary tale for people who aspire to heroism in their own lives.

That goal is truly laudable, but as the series' thematic Anakin/Darth Vader doppelganger images warn, the prospective hero has to be constantly ready to fight the villain in himself.

Feedback

FROM the committee on Morality in Media of Daughters of Mary Immaculate, International at Holy Spirit Parish, BF Homes, QC:

"We salute you for being a steadfast champion of morality and decency in the field of entertainment and culture. You're a model writer and lea

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'Bunso' bags Best Director award in Prague

dren caught up in conflict and inhumanity. In 'The Youngest (Bunso),' the filmmaker achieves empathy and closeness to her characters who are children held in atrocious conditions in a Manila (sic) jail. Filmed from not above or below their level, humor and despair intermingle as the children are allowed to speak for themselves as equals."

In an e-mail to Consuelo Foundation and Unicef—which jointly funded the documentary film, Carolino wrote: "If you go through the films we competed against, it's a miracle that we won. We didn't think we had a ghost of a chance. Almost all of them were made in First World countries with budgets of 100,000 to 200,000 euros each—especially 'Three Rooms of Melancholia' ..."

"Bunso" has been screened in Amsterdam, Toronto, Prague and Munich. It debuted, and was screened thrice, at the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) in November 2004. Several festival programmers first heard about "Bunso" from this festival.

The documentary film had a sold-out screening at the Canadian International Documentary Film Festival or HotDocs—with 500 Canadians, international delegates and a handful of Filipinos in attendance.

Also, "Bunso" had three screenings at the One World Human Rights Film Festival—one with English subtitles, and two screenings with Czech subtitles.

"Believe it or not, we have a Czech subtitled version of 'Bunso' now!" said Carolino.

The director added that they had two screenings at the Dokfest Internationales Dokumentarfilmfestival Muchen (Munich)—with simultaneous German

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STAR WARS
EPISODE III
REVENGE OF THE SITH

SCHEDULES OF STAR WARS EPISODE 3 ON MAY 19 (THURSDAY)

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Cinema 1 - 10:40 am, 1:30 pm, 4:20, 10:00
Cinema 2 - 11:10 am, 2:00 pm, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30
Cinema 3 - 11:40 am, 2:30 pm, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00
Cinema 4 - 1:00 pm, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30
Cinema 5 - 12:30 pm, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00

GLORIETTA 1
Cinema 1 - 12:30 pm, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
Cinema 2 - 1:00 pm, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Cinema 3 - 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

GLORIETTA 4
Cinema 1 - 12:40 pm, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10
Cinema 2 - 11:45 am, 2:35 pm, 5:25, 8:15, 11:05
Cinema 3 - 12:10 pm, 3:00, 11:30
Cinema 6 - 1:40 pm, 4:30, 10:10
Cinema 7 - 1:10 pm, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40

GREENBELT 1
Cinema 1 - 12:30 pm, 3:20, 6:10, 8:15
Cinema 2 - 1:15 pm, 4:05, 6:55, 9:00

GREENBELT 3
Cinema 1 - 1:40 pm, 4:30, 10:10
Cinema 2 - 2:10 pm, 5:00, 10:40
Cinema 3 - 1:10 pm, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40, 12:30
Cinema 4 - 12:40 pm, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10, 12:00
Cinema 5 - 12:15 pm, 3:05, 5:55, 11:35

MARKET! MARKET!
Cinema 5 - 12:20 pm, 3:10, 6:00, 8:50
Cinema 6 - 12:50 pm, 3:40, 6:30, 9:20
Cinema 7 - 1:20 pm, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Cinema 1 - 12:30 pm, 3:10
Cinema 2 - 1:30 pm, 3:50, 9:30

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ler whom we look up to. got integrity, intellectual ncere concern, wisdom and th.

of us are professionals and omen.

you're one of the most as- insightful writer in the We wish there could be ore of your exceptional

of all, you're an inspiration to our youth, whose well- nd development you so usly uphold and preserve. your great work; we're hind you."

T'

. today, HBO screens the tion film, "S.W.A.T." In ie, the Special Weapons ics Unit is given its most us mission ever: to escort ous drug lord who has of- $100-m bounty to anyone free him from police cus-

include **Colin Farrell**, **L. Jackson** and **Michelle ez**.

From page A2-1

ranslations on headphones.

o added that so far, they've very strong responses to "Bun- iewers make it a point to stay "wanting to know how they n concrete ways."

o" will be joining film fes- Washington D.C. from 19; Silverdocs—an inter- documentary film festi- nized by Discovery Chan- h Africa sometime July; ounters, an international ntary film festival in rica.

OPENS JUNE 1
THE CITY IS UNDER SIEGE
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CLIVE OWENS
ELIJAH WOOD
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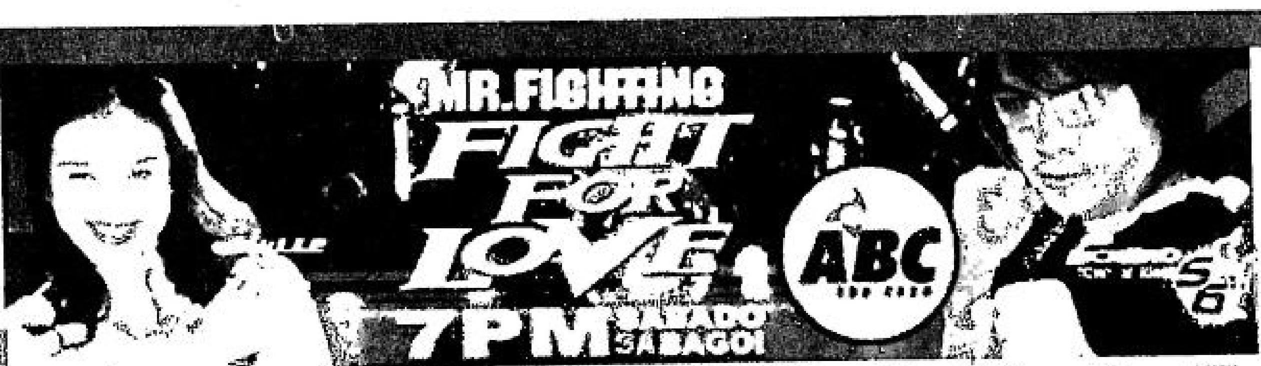
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Sunday, May 22, 2005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Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		SCQ Reload		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Search For A Star In A Million		Sunday Family Cinema			
ABC 5		Ringside		PBA										ABCinema					
GMA 7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Naks	Mel & Joey Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho	All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office				
RPN 9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		WWE Experience		Smackdown		Navy Ncis		Without A Trace						The Working President	Ugnayan
IBC 13		Lifestyle	Nation's Peacekeeper	America Atbp.		Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Legacy Of Hero		2005 Japan 9-Ball Festival				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV		Reno 911	Banzai	X-Play	Sweat	Street Smarts	The Sib Show	Hip Hop Nation	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE Afterburn		WWE Smackdown				Shorties Watching Shorties	The Man Show	Insomniac W/ Dave Attell	Beat The Geeks
Nickelodeon	Girls In Love	Naturally Sadie	As Told By Ginger	Tao Shu The Warrior Boy	Lat, The Kampung Boy	The Adventures Of Tenali Raman	Rugrats	Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Girls In Love	Naturally Sadie	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys
MYX		Urban MYX	MYX Backtrax	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Hit Chart				Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Presents		My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Veronica Mars		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight Girl		Average Joe		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Nip/ Tuck		Entertainment Tonight Weekend	
Studio 23			Stoplight TV	BYK 101	Hotwire TV	Top Gear	Game Plan	Nginig The Hidden Files		Exposed		Two & A Half Men	Joey	Will & Grace	F	Digital Tour (10:15PM)		Fastlane (11:15PM)	
AXN		Men In Black II				Global Adventure		WRC 2005: Cyprus		Extreme Variety		Fear Factor		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 5)		Lost		The Contender	
Star World	Arrested Development	The Apprentice		Miss Match		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Wild Card/Criss Angel Supernatural Mindfreak		Malcolm In The Middle	The Kumars At No. 42	Oprah Prime Time		Parkinson		The Office		Malcolm In The Middle	Oprah Prime Time
CNN	Design 360	World News	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart Global Edition	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	CNN Presents: A Rising Tide The Threat Of Global Warming		World News	MainSail	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart Global Edition	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	World Sport
National Geographic		Interpol Investigates		Samsung Best Of The Week		Human Edge	Crittercam Wildtech Adventure	Hot Science		Air Crash Investigation		Ten Days To Victory				Interpol Investigates		Samsung Best Of The Week	
Solar Sports	Euro Med Storm Int'l. Tenpin Bowling				IBF Japan Open '05			Boxing: Calderon vs. Tunacao					NBA Jam L924	Greatest Game: Jazz vs. Rockets '97				NBA TV Daily	Destination Finals
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Food Network Special		E! Entertainment Special		50 Hottest Vegas Moments				Style Star	You're Invited
HBO		Babe (2:50 PM)			Escape From L.A.			What A Girl Wants (6:15 PM)								The Italian Job (9:55 PM)			
Star Movies				Patch Adams (4:15 PM)				Master And Commander: The Far Side Of The World					Opening Night	Out For A Kill			Dudley Do-Right		Terminator 2: Judgement Day (11:45PM)
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Mysteries	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Swat Kats	Duck Dodgers	Xiaolin Showdown	Winx Club	Atomic Betty	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Teen Titans	Megas XLR	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Duck Dodgers	Codename: Kids Next Door	Samurai Jack	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
Disney Channel	Potatoes And Dragons	Sabrina, The Animated Series	The Legend Of Tarzan	Wicked Science	Kim Possible	Totally Spies	That's So Raven	American Dragon	Phil Of The Future	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney			Dave The Barbarian	Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Cinemax			Innocent Moves			The Android Affair (5:15PM)			A Perfect World (6:45 PM)					Saving Emily			The Addams Family		
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched																Life On Liberty Street		
Discovery Channel		Science Mysteries		American Chopper		Rides		Mummy Autopsy		Hour Asia		Hour China		Discovery Sunday				Power Zone	
Sports Plus						Raceworld		Italia Serie A				Preakness Stakes		Get A Grip	Inside the PGA	Bank of America Colonial Day3			

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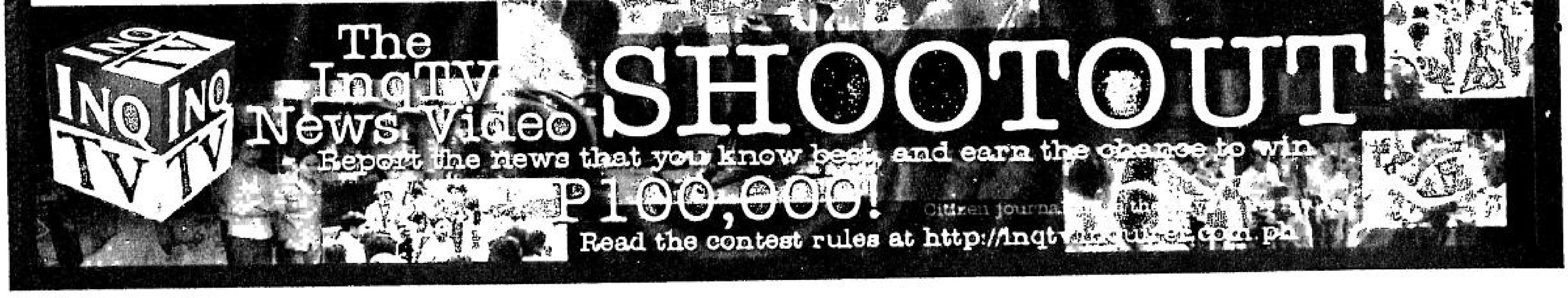
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SMART Buddy Presents

STAR WARS EPISODE III REVENGE OF THE SITH

The Jedi and the Sith strike a pose

The Emperor and Darth Vader are surrounded by Storm Troopers

Darth Vader leads the Empire into SM Megamall

The saga is now complete. *Star Wars*, the worldwide phenomenon that first burst onto the scene in 1977, comes to its emotional end with *Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith*. To celebrate the release of this final installment in George Lucas' epic, SMART Buddy presents fun activities through "Journey of the Jedi", a *Star Wars* exhibit at Building A of SM Megamall. From May 12 to May 26, *Star Wars* fans of all ages, shapes, and sizes can enjoy a truly unique experience.

There are two ways to get in free: buy a SMART Buddy Super SIM 3 or for existing SMART subscribers, simply subscribe to exclusive *Star Wars* downloads and load up your SMART celfone. The activity area is split into three spots familiar to *Star Wars* aficionados. Dagobah features Yoda's house, wall climbing, as well as different *Star Wars* memorabilia over the years. Mos Eisley allows kids to get their faces painted, get henna tattoos, play Plug & Play Games, and even build using Lego blocks. In the Death Star, you can have your fortune read in the Psychic Fortress, as well as SMART Buddy Download Stations for you to personalize your phone the *Star Wars* way. You can also have your photos taken with your favorite *Star Wars* characters and have them instantly printed by Canon.

This past weekend, members of the official *Star Wars* Philippines fans club dressed up as their favorite Jedi as well as forces of the evil Empire to the delight of the kids who attended the event. Children and their parents could also get their MMS pictures taken with the *Star Wars* characters using their SMART celfones, and have them printed on the spot with the available Canon printers. How cool would it be to have a picture with Darth Vader and Emperor Palpatine? Pose with Mace Windu, Anakin Skywalker, and the rest of the Jedi. These and other fun prizes still await you at the "Journey of the Jedi" exhibit in SM Megamall Building A!

SMART Buddy also gave an exclusive corporate screening into *Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith* last Monday at the Premiere THX Cinema in Makati. Cocktails were served before the screening as a "by-invite only' crowd rushed to get ahead of the pack. The film itself is the culmination of nearly 30 years of *Star Wars* mythology. It chronicles the end to the Clone Wars, the rise of the Galactic Empire, and the stunning transformation of Anakin Skywalker into the fearsome Darth Vader. With all the space dogfights and lightsaber battles you can handle, this is a visual feast that will surely leave fans of both trilogies begging for more.

To call *Star Wars* a phenomenon is indeed an understatement. Perhaps no movie series has ever grabbed the imaginations of so many people around the world like George Lucas' masterpiece, and Episode III will effectively close the chapter to this era. So don't miss this opportunity to feel the Force and all its power. Head over to SM Megamall or text STARWARS and send to 291 to bring the saga right onto your celfone. Do that, and the Force will truly be with you, always.

Kids build starships using Lego

Accessorize your phone at the SMART Download Station

The entrance to the "Journey of the Jedi" exhibit

Old and new *Star Wars* toys are on display

Wall climbing at the Dagobah section of the exhibit

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Fans of all ages pose with *Star Wars* characters

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An appreciative *Star Wars* crowd

Early birds line up for *Revenge of the Sith*

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J Lo clams up!

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Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—I want the old J Lo back!

I prefer the diva from the Bennifer days of yore. All right, perhaps the media attention did get a little out of hand but at least, J Lo seemed more fun back then.

At a recent press con, Jennifer Lopez refused to answer many questions because they were "too personal." She declined to answer my question on what her second *biyenan* was like, though I thought it would tie in perfectly with the movie she was promoting, "Monster-in-Law" (comedienne and cast member Wanda Sykes called it "whoring the movie"). Okay, I didn't really expect Ms Lopez to declare the Filipina mom of her husband No. 2, Cris Judd, as a monster. But J Lo could have said some nice words about her and not violate her no-comment-on-personal-matters stance of late.

Instead, Jennifer declared, "I don't want to talk about that. No personal topics, please."

Weird situation

In a way, I understand Jennifer's reticence toward the media these days. She must have been really burned from the Bennifer press hysteria that reached excessive heights (or nadir, depending on how you look at it) when she and Ben Affleck called off their wedding plans. But her guarded stance created awkward moments during the press con. To her credit, J lo stayed cool, smiling and patient.

The Bronx-born singer-actress did open up, somewhat, on an array of topics, including protests by Peta (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) against her fur wearing and designing ways: "I don't give a lot of energy to organizations like that. I will say, everybody's entitled to his opinion. That's the great thing about this country. That's really all I'd like to say about it. It's a weird situation."

On being considered a positive role model for girls not to aspire to be rail-thin: "I think I have contributed in a positive way to body image because I've always said that it doesn't matter whether you're bigger or smaller. You just gotta be yourself and do the best you can."

First with Marc

On what she is not good at (since she seems to do a million things—sing, act, dance, produce, design, compose, run a restaurant, get married every few years and so on): "I'm only good at the things that I try to do or at least I think I'm good at. I could never become a basketball player (laughter). I'm an athletic person but I'm terrible at basketball. I don't think I'd be good at running a thing from behind a desk all day. I'm more creative. I can't think of anything else."

On husband no. three, Latin music superstar Marc Anthony: "The first time I ever sang live onstage

J LO/ A3-2 "I'M trying to make my life bearable."

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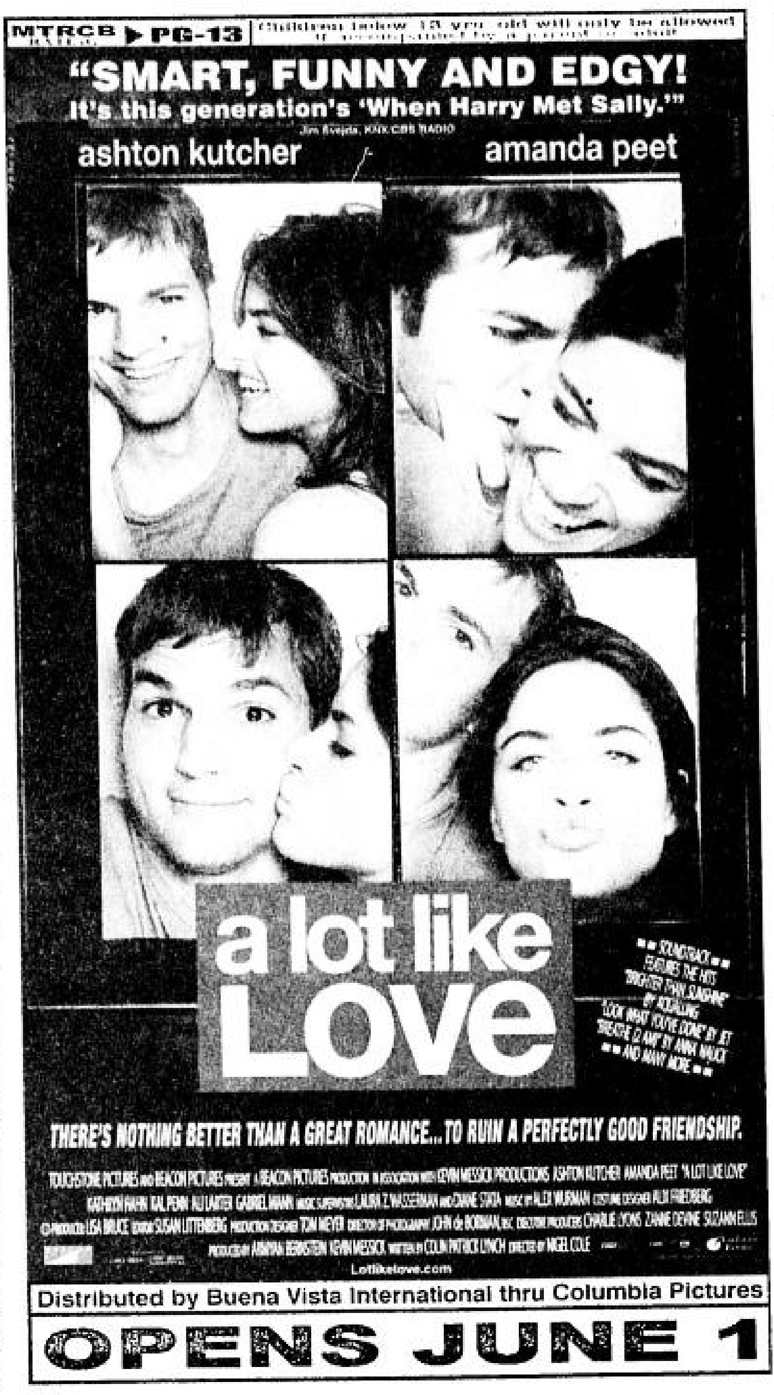
guests RICKY DAVAO MICHAEL DE MESA RODEL VELAYO TIM YAP & MARISSA DELGADO
Bikini open
SEIKO Films presentation Directed by JEFFREY JETURIAN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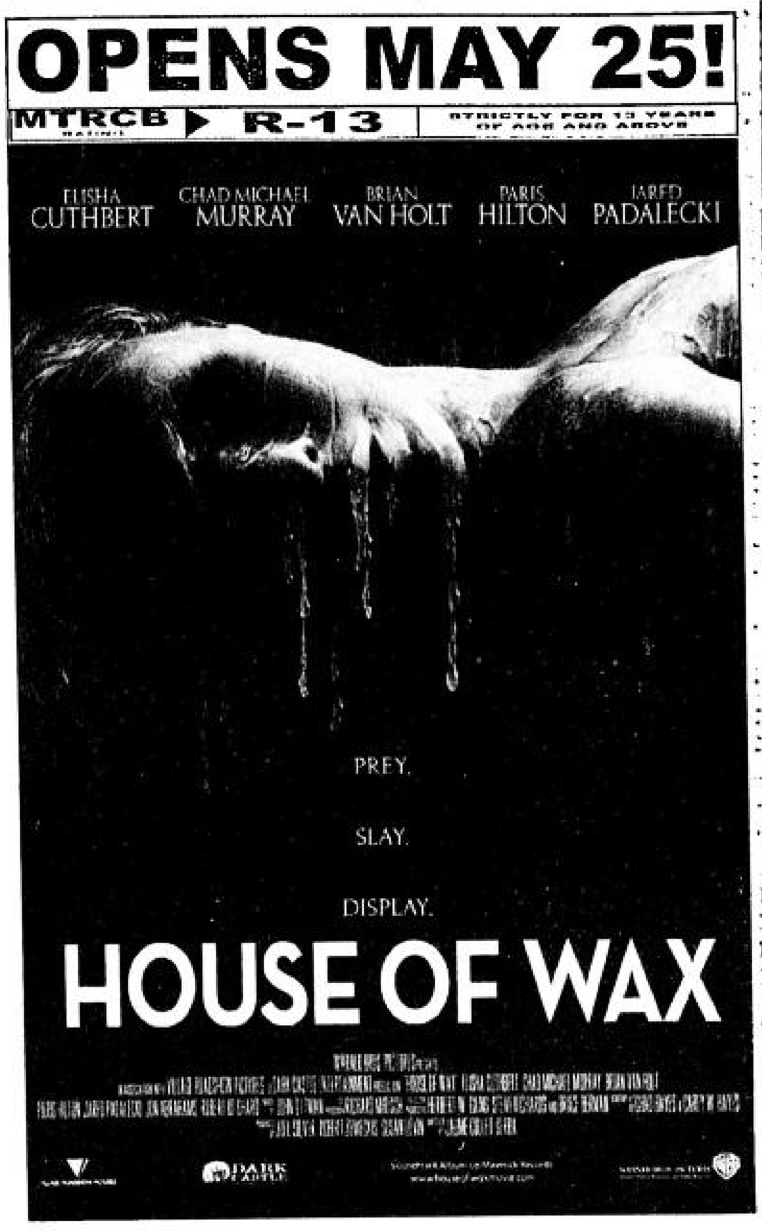
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PREY.
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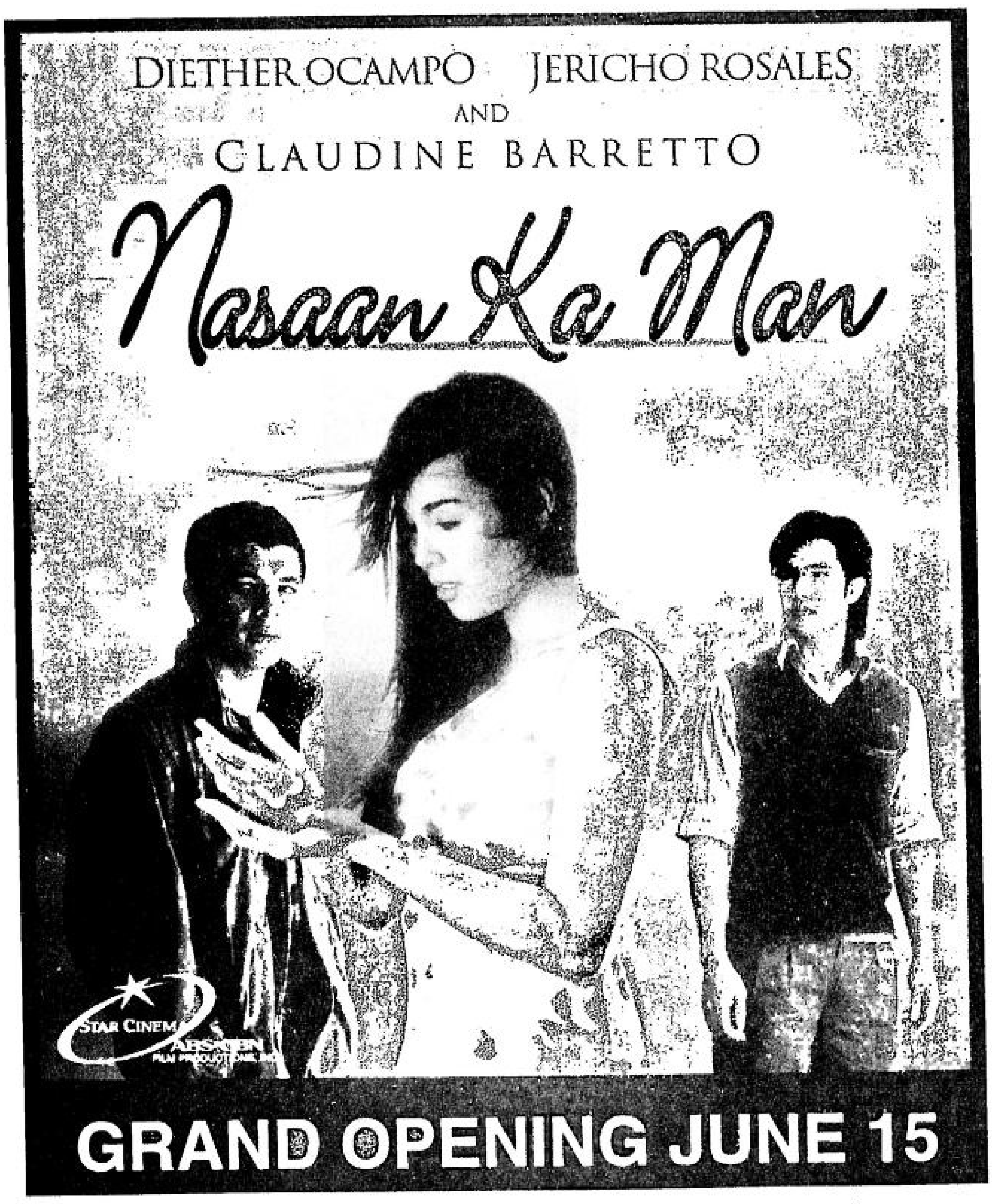
HOUSE OF WAX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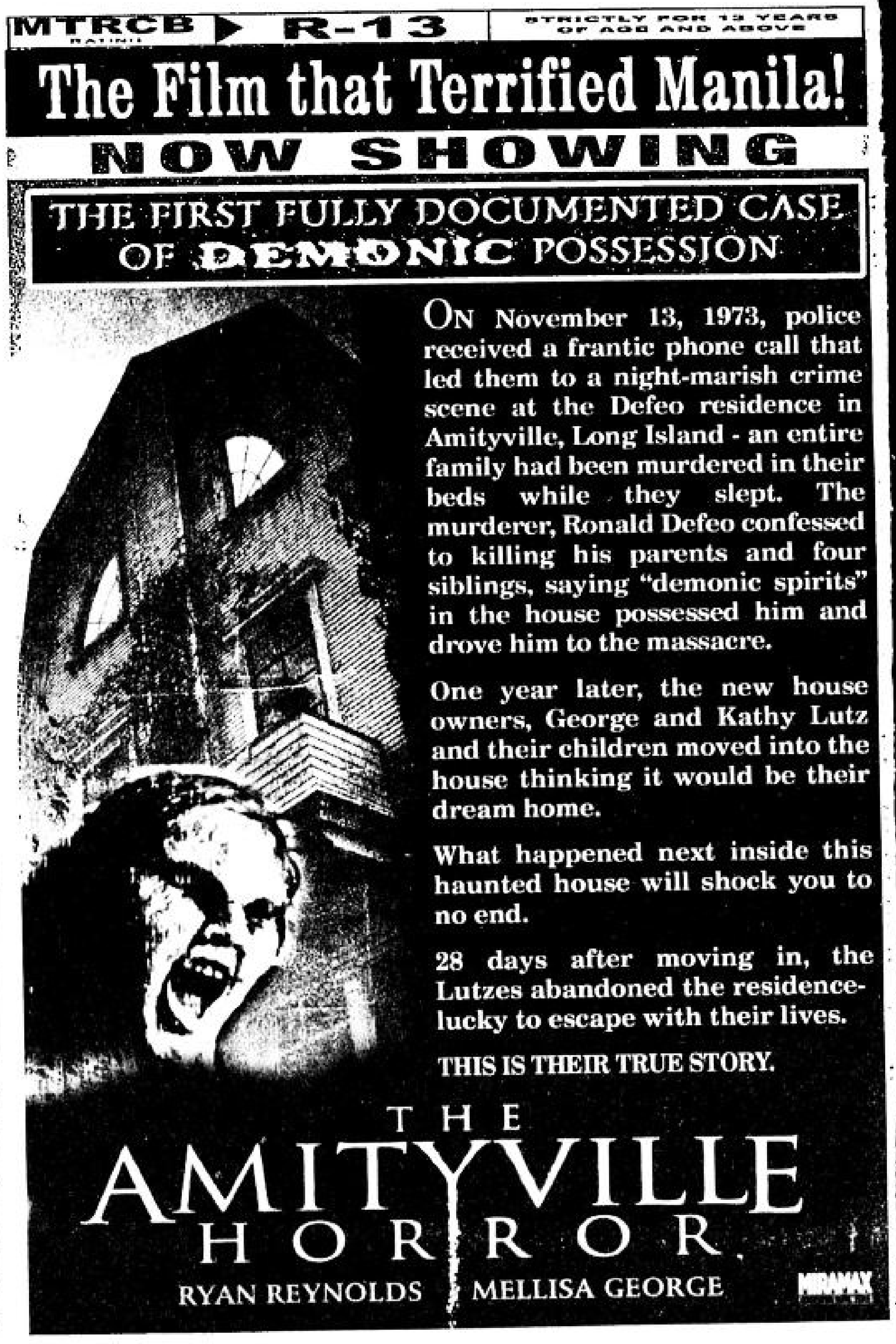
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One year later, the new house owners, George and Kathy Lutz and their children moved into the house thinking it would be their dream home.
What happened next inside this haunted house will shock you to no end.
28 days after moving in, the Lutzes abandoned the residence-lucky to escape with their lives.
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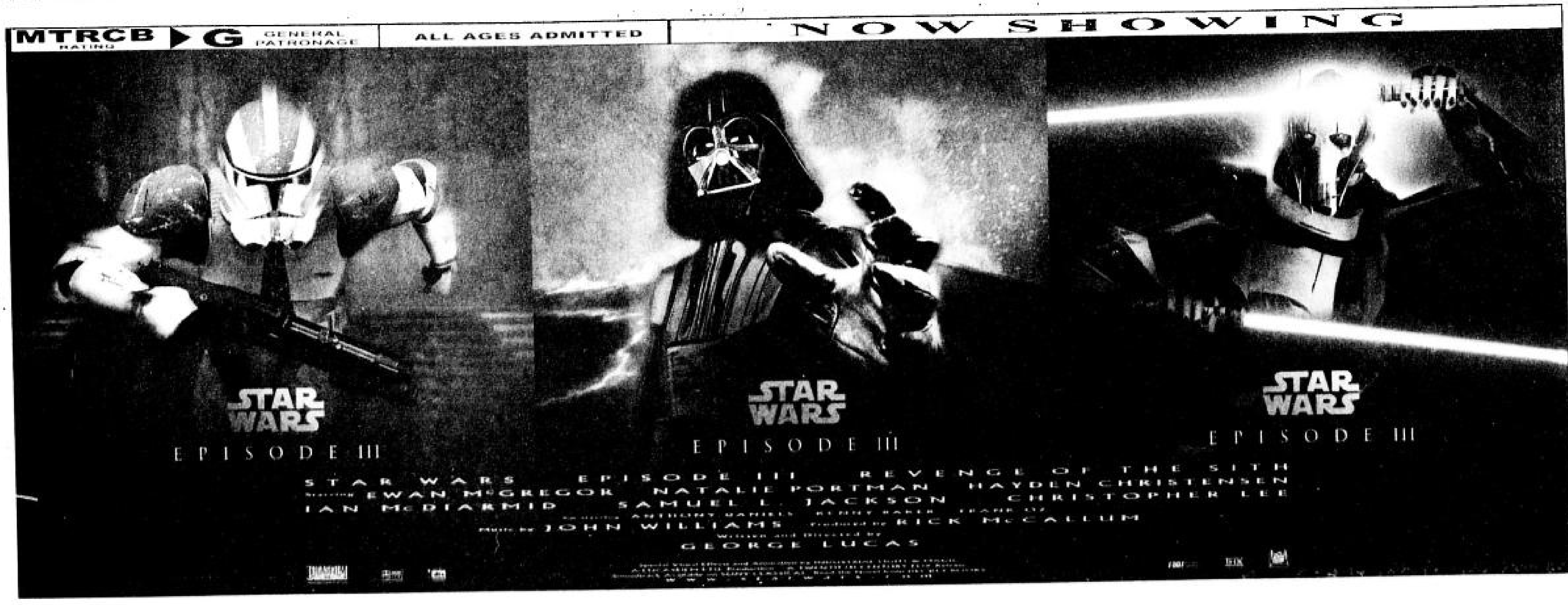
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Co-starring ANTHONY DANIELS KENNY BAKER FRANK OZ
Music by JOHN WILLIAMS Produced by RICK McCALLUM
Written and Directed by GEORGE LUCAS

La Vida Ros

When she wanted something, she as
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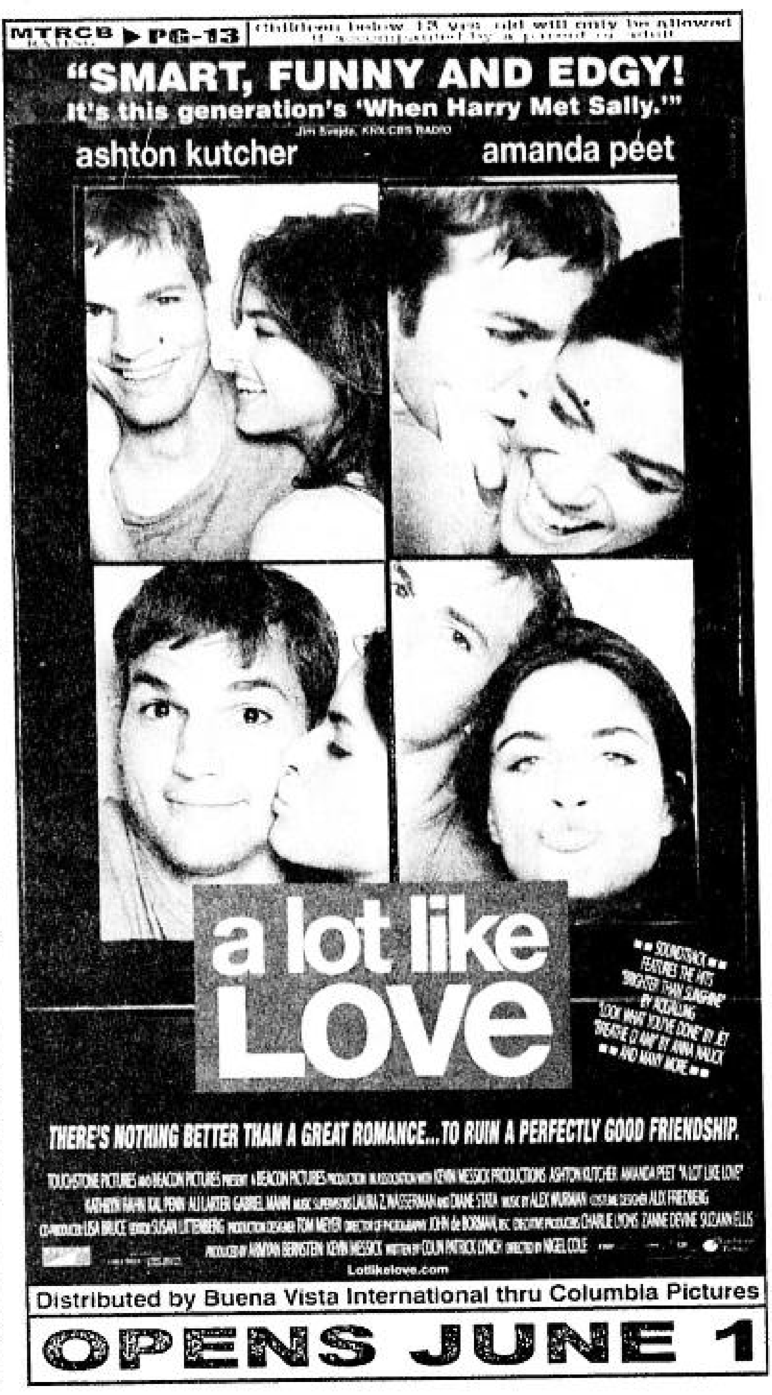
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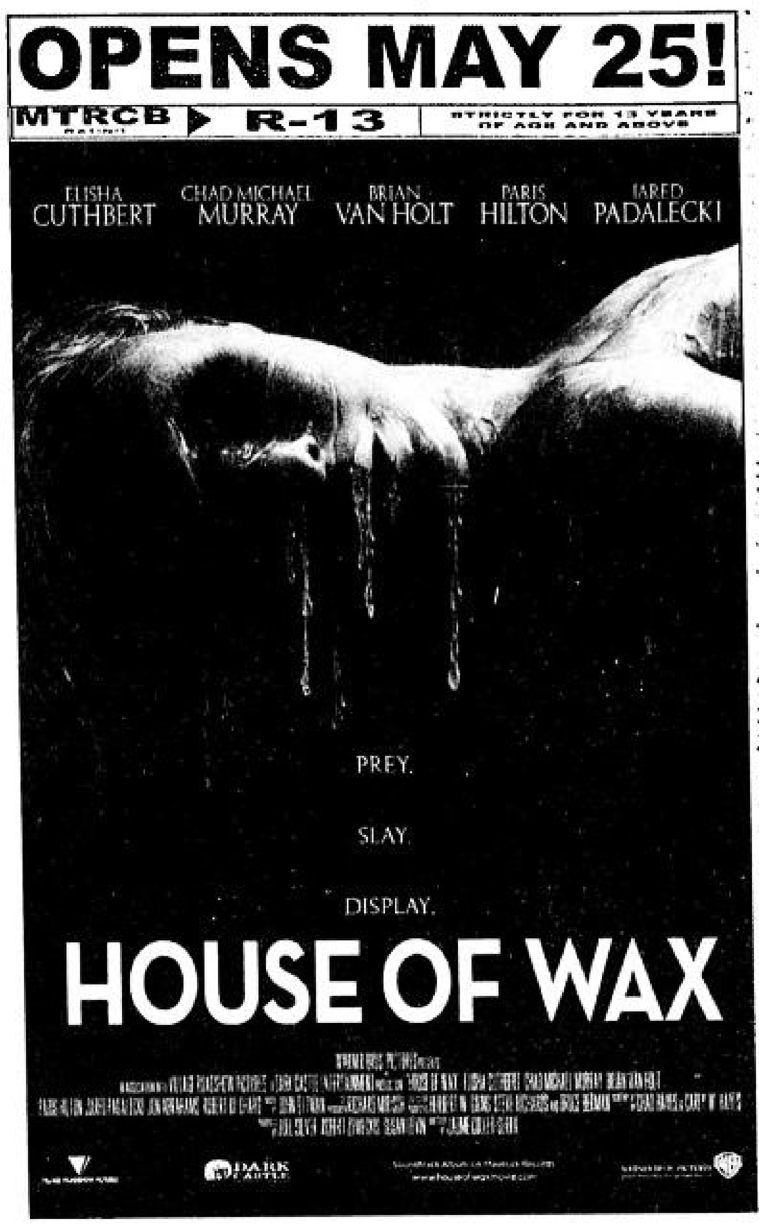
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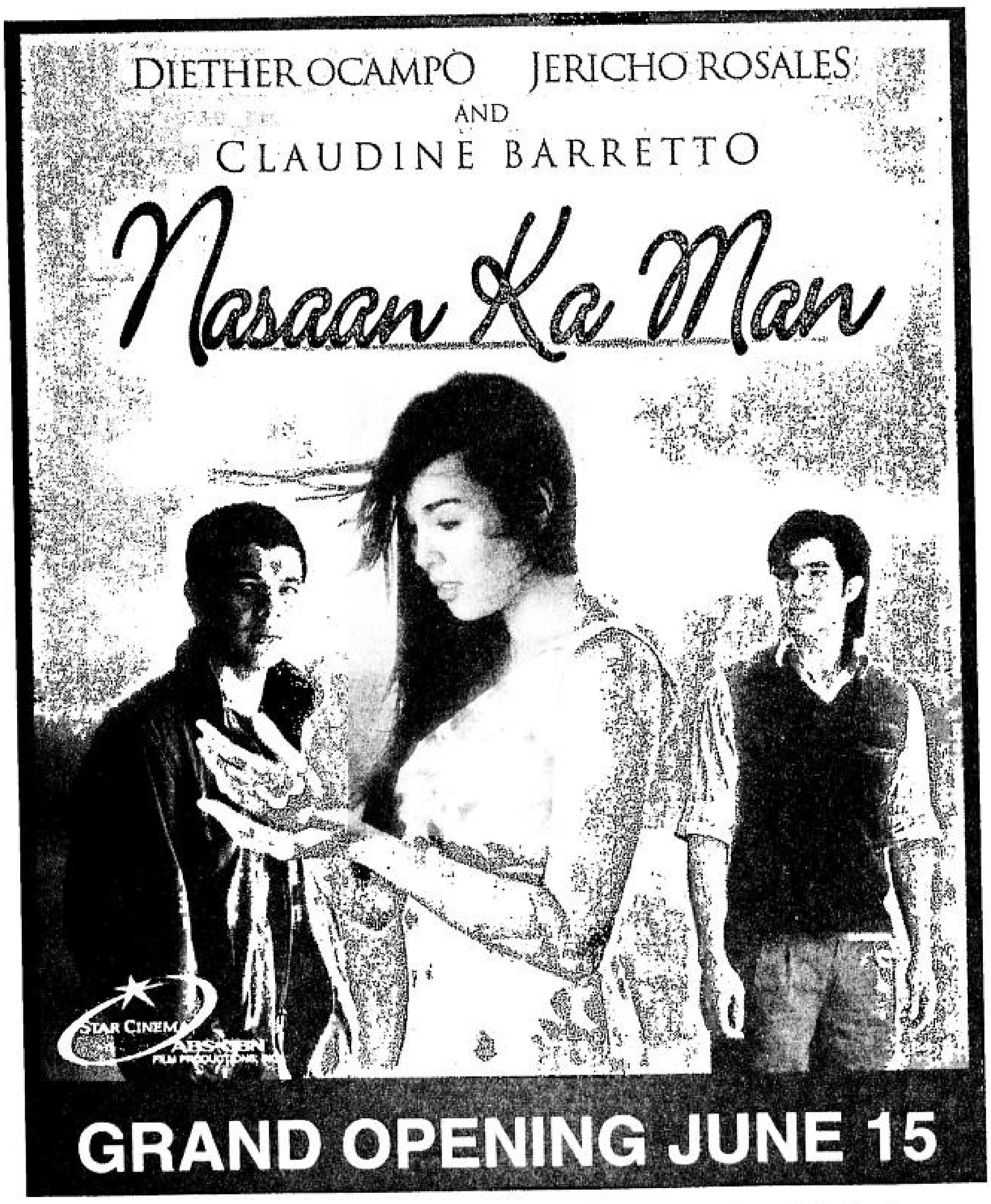
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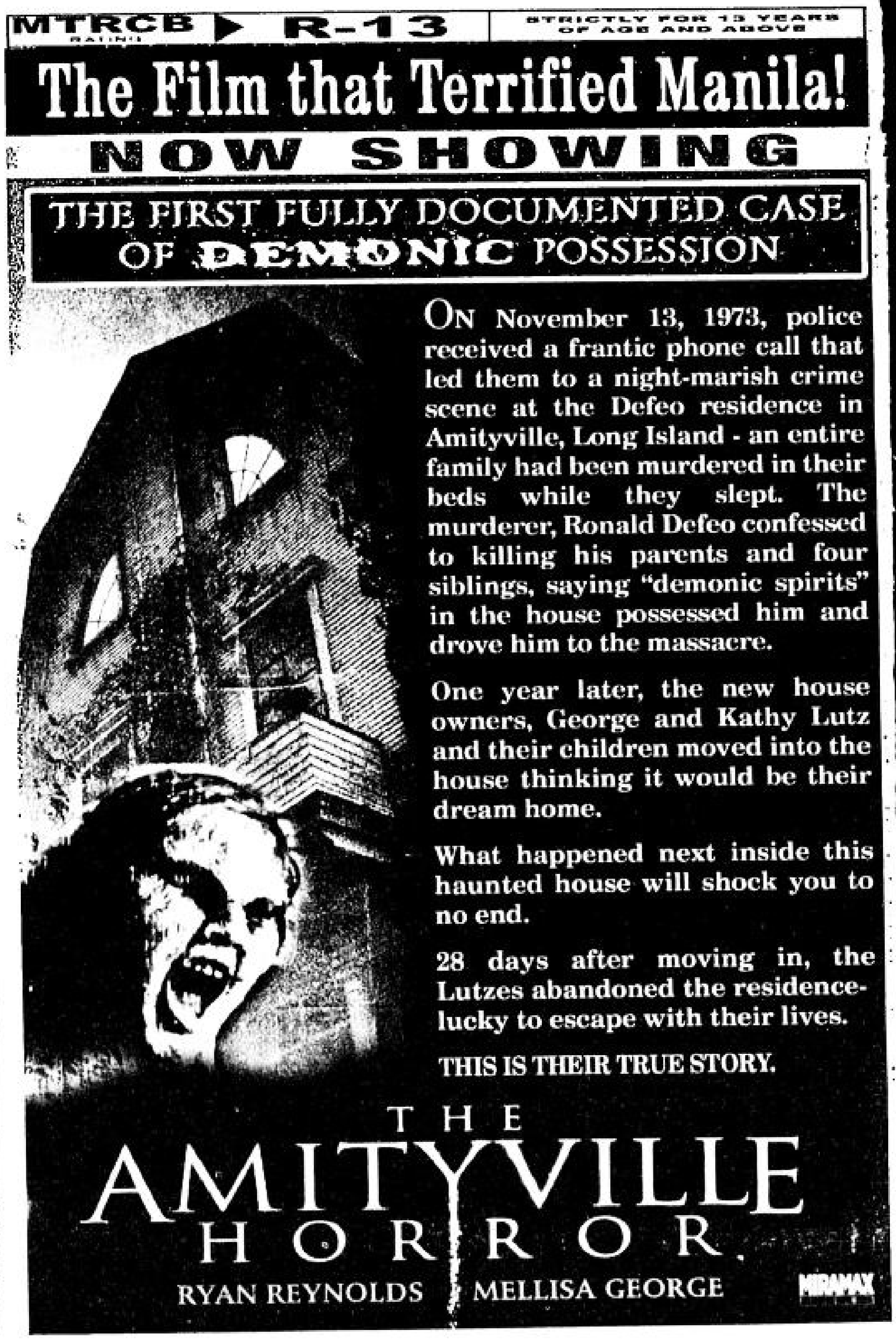
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GEORGE LUCAS

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a Rosal

ked for it—a screen test, a d Cross

From page A3-4

for all three studios—Nolasco, LVN and Premiere—the public was seeing practically nothing but Rosa Rosal in Dalisay at the time!"

She was declared the country's Movie Queen a year after her debut "just as I told my mother, who warned me not to be arrogant!"

Quite naturally, LVN, the country's leading film company at that time, didn't waste time signing up Rosal to an exclusive contract.

Treasure trove

This team-up proved propitious and led to a treasure trove of classics that included "Anak Dalita" (1956), "Badjao" (1957), and "Biyaya ng Lupa" (1959).

"At first I thought my role as a prostitute in 'Anak Dalita' was nothing," she says.

But the post-war drama directed by National Artist Lamberto Avellana won the Golden Harvest or Best Picture award at the 1956 Asian Film Festival held in Hong Kong.

"I got a Presidential citation from Ramon Magsaysay that [same] year," she says, beaming with pride. (She would win the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for public service in 1999 and, with the $50,000 prize, she would start a scholarship foundation.)

Then, came "Badjao," in which the fearless, fair-skinned actress portrayed a Tausug princess.

"[LVN producer] Manny de Leon was hesitant at first," she says. "He warned that it was an unglamorous role!'"

Rosal was undaunted, of course. "I told my boss I could do it. I had a childbirth scene even though I was unmarried then. And I had to wear dark makeup. I was so proud when the movie won at the Edinburgh (Scotland) Festival."

The Avellana film, shot in Subic, swept the major trophies at the 1957 Southeast Asia Film Festival held in Tokyo—Best Director, Best Story, Best Editor, and Best Cinematography.

"Badjao" proved to be a mere dress rehearsal for Rosal, who was raring to wrestle a more challenging film in "Biyaya ng Lupa," directed by Manuel Silos in 1959.

"Imagine, I played mother to Leroy Salvador who was older than I was," she gasps. "But I fought for that role. My producer Manny de Leon didn't think I was right for it. I challenged him to give me a screen test so I could prove that I could do it. I was only 26 and I had to age tremendously onscreen. I'm 74 now, but I look older in that movie!"

Clever gambit

Rosal's gambit paid off once again. "Biyaya ng Lupa" romped away with the Famas Best Picture and Best Story that year. It also made waves at the Asian Film Festival held in Tokyo in 1960.

In all three cinematic masterpieces, Rosal shared the screen with the late great Tony Santos Sr.

"*Ay naku*, Tony is a scene stealer!" Rosal roars. On their first day on the set, Rosal had a heart-to-heart with her co-star. "I told him: '*Huwag mo akong nanakawan ng eksena* because I will not allow you! And that will not do the movie any good. *Ang mangyayari n'yan: nanakawan mo ako; nanakawan kita. Masisira tayo pareho.* Instead, let's work as a team!'"

Rosal and Santos worked so beautifully together that they were cast in numerous TV drama shows in the '70s. "We even did 'Sakada' together in 1976."

"Sakada" proved to be another contemporary classic for Rosal. The Behn Cervantes film on agrarian unrest was seized by the military upon the orders of Ferdinand Marcos.

"That movie was pulled out because of my powerful monologue calling for a revolution," she says. "It was a seven-minute scene. At first, I couldn't do it. I kept asking my director, 'Do they really live like that?' So Behn showed me the living conditions of the *sakada* [in Canlubang where the film was shot]. *Naku*, I was crying and crying! I asked Behn to give me 10 minutes. And then I did the scene. *Pero* Take One *lang ako ha!*"

QUEEN of Philippine Movies, 1948

ENTERTAINING US troops during the Korean War.

RED Cross fund-raiser, with Hollywood actor Charlton Heston and then First Lady Eva Macapagal

J Lo clams up

From page A3-1

was with Marc Anthony. We had a duet called 'No Me Ames' from my very first album that was going up the charts like crazy. They asked me to come and do this Spanish radio show but I'm sure they did so just to get Marc Anthony there. They were like, come do the duet, please! So there I was, singing with Marc Anthony at the Madison Square Garden. It was the very first time I ever sang live. We've worked together many times over the years. He's been a great musical influence in my life as an artist."

A reporter pounced on the chance to ask Jennifer to say outright that she and Marc were married (to this day, the couple are mum on this). Her response: "Again, I don't feel like that's something that I really want to get into. At some point, I have to discern what's important and what's not. And my life happens to be important to me."

The writer insisted, "What is your husband like?" "No," came the quick reply. "I don't want to talk about that. He wouldn't be thrilled if I did that."

Finally, another reporter asked her a series of questions about this no-personal-stuff-please business. First question: Since newspapers and magazines continued to write or speculate about her private life, wouldn't it be to her benefit to discuss these personal things so she could set the record straight?

Out of control

"I used to think so," she pointed out. "I used to think I could right all the wrongs. But ... it's too far-reaching and out of my control. There's only one of me and too many of you."

But we're not the enemy, clarified the journalist. "I'm not saying you are," she quipped. "But I can't control what everybody writes, says or does. Honestly, it's not anybody's business what's going on in my personal life. I just feel it's off limits and has to stay off limits. I've learned that the hard way."

The reporter persisted: "What would your reaction be if the press completely ignored you? How damaging do you think that would be to your career?"

"You're looking at it like I ... don't want to talk to you," volleyed J Lo. "It's not about that. It really isn't. This is about drawing a certain boundary for myself. We come here to promote these movies. You guys are a big part of that. I'm not trying to make your lives more difficult. I'm trying to make mine more bearable (laughter)."

Again the reporter shot back: "But the readers, all of us, would like to know who Jennifer Lopez is. "I do think about that," she responded. "But do I need to know who my favorite actress is with, right now? No, I don't. Do I need to know what she's wearing, where she shops, what she's doing? No, I don't. I would be happy to know what her next project is." In the same breath, she said: "I would be happy to know little tidbits about her ... and keep some mystery. The way things are delved into these days is really un-mysterious, un-sexy, uninteresting, creating a society that's really not anything beautiful and good."

After the grilling, J Lo gamely posed for pictures, even turning to show her exposed back. And yet she complained that she was cold when she entered the room. Oh yeah, precious readers—that reminded me to mention what she was wearing. She was all covered up in front but in the back, her designer seemed to run out of fabric. The deep purple dress was tight in the rear end, of course, the better to show off her famous posterior. Watching her, I thought J Lo was not mysterious but she was sexy, beautiful and perhaps, good.

(E-mail the columnist at rvnepales@yahoo.com.)

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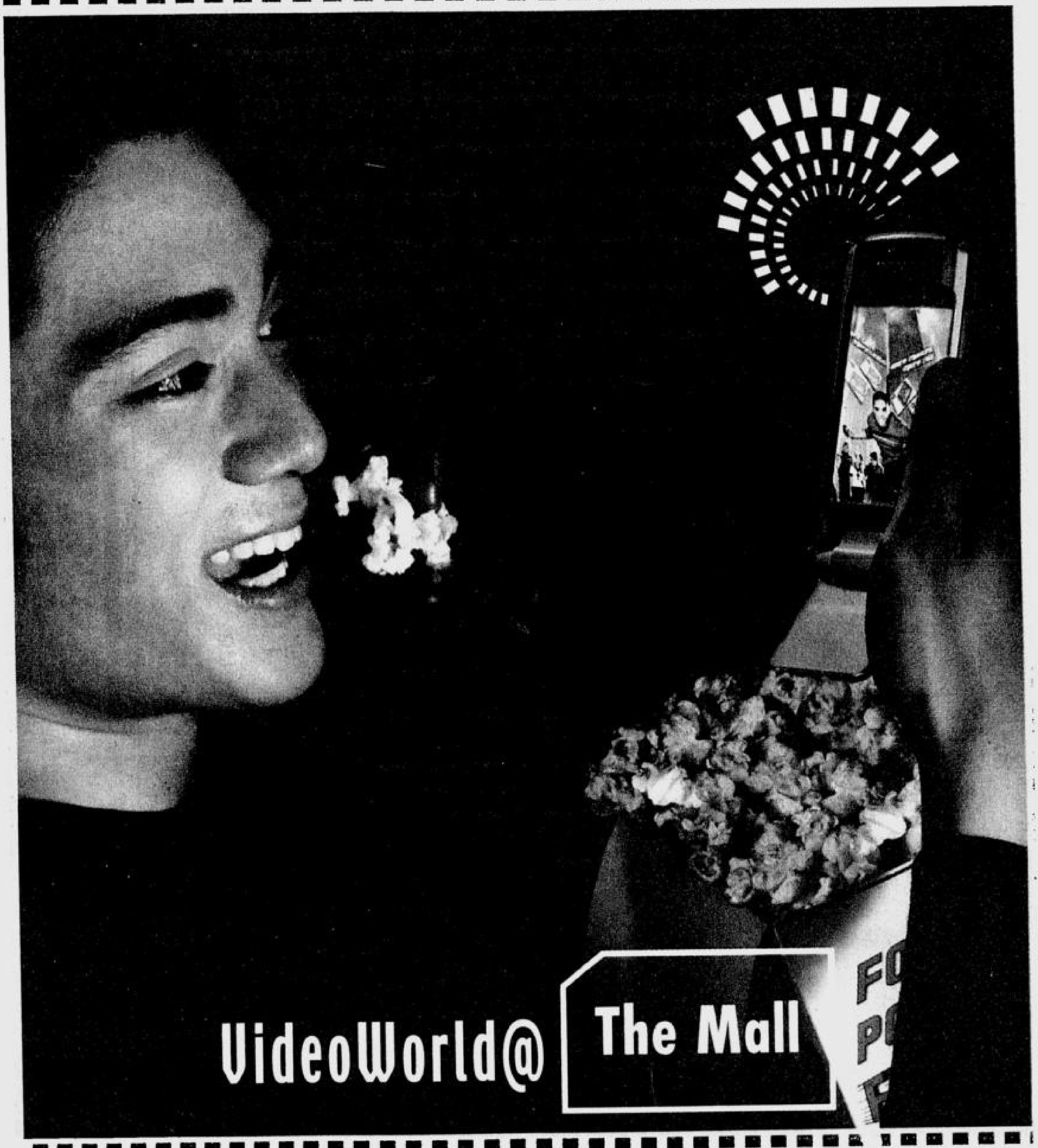

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CAMAY Girl in the late '40s

La Vida Rosa Rosal

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

YESTERDAY

QUESTION: Which actress modeled for the Famas statuette?

Answer: Rosa Rosal.

That was in 1952. "My waistline was only 22 then," says the Governor of the Philippine National Red Cross, who won the trophy herself in 1955 for "Sonny Boy."

Now, of course, her waist looks bigger by only an inch.

Rosa Rosal—Florence Danon in real life—defies every notion people have of a philanthropist. Think Florence Nightingale crossed with Erin Brockovich.

Up and down, on stillettos, she negotiated the stairs at the Red Cross building in Port Area Manila. Still vivacious at 74, she effortlessly makes heads turn.

Rosal always understood the power of celebrity. This was why she took on the cause of the Red Cross in 1950. She is observing her 55th anniversary with the agency soon, hopefully with a big fund-raising event.

GOVERNOR, Philippine National Red Cross

As a show biz novice, she pulled all sorts of headline-grabbing stunts. She recalls these beginnings in 1947: "We didn't have managers then, so we did things on our own. If it was raining, I would come out in public in a backless top. If it was sunny, I'd wear a turtleneck sweater. I once walked my dog along Dewey Boulevard wearing shorty shorts!"

She quite literally stopped traffic, she says mischievously. "Four cars crashed into each other."

After the Korean War, when the American troops arrived in Manila, she kissed "lips to lips" the first soldier she saw. "We were on the front pages for two weeks!" she recounts mischievously.

D-Day

She has always been keenly aware of her unique gifts. But not on the day she was discovered. "I was just walking down the street, minding my own business, and this man asked me if I wanted to be [a movie] extra. He photographed me in Intramuros."

Luis Nolasco, big boss of Nolasco Brothers studio, was impressed and offered the French-Egyptian-Filipina a contract. Rosal says, "I asked him to give me a screen test first."

She did well, apparently, because she was soon launched by the Nolasco Brothers in "Kamagong" in 1947.

Luis Nolasco himself christened her Rosa Rosal. "While doing 'Kamagong,' I was a star without a name. But once, during a party, Nolasco pointed out a bunch of roses and rosal to me. I said, '*Ang sarap siguro ng amoy no'n* (That must be very fragrant!')"

Nolasco was hit by sweet inspiration: "Rosa Rosal. That will be your name." She proceeded to headline a string of movies, one after the other, in the late '40s.

She relates: "After my debut with Nolasco, LVN got me. Then, Premiere. If I am not mistaken, there was only one moviehouse in Manila then, Dalisay Theater. And because I was doing movies

LA VIDA/ A3-2

GRADED A BY THE CINEMA EVALUATION BOARD

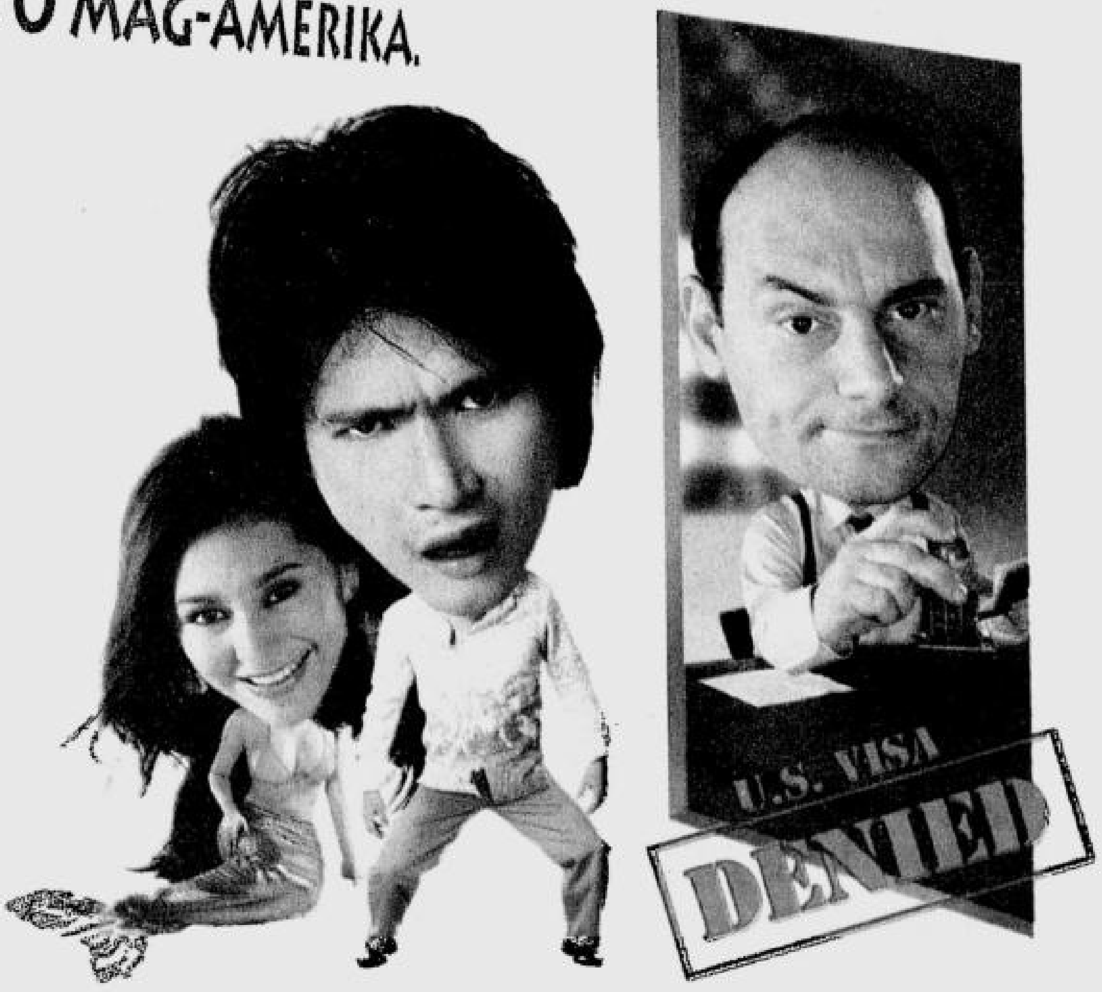
"...there is laughter galore in this film.."

"...not only is it entertaining, it is also intelligent..."

"...Robin Padilla delivers the best performance in his career...
From beginning to end, Padilla is very effective
-- even brilliant in his scenes."
- Butch Francisco (Philippine Star)

"La Visa Loca is a should-see production for lovers of
Filipino movies that come to bear on local realities..."
- Nestor U. Torre (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

GUSTO MAG-AMERIKA.
AYAW NG AMERIKA.



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A TONY GLORIA PRODUCTION
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STAR WARS: EPISODE III GP 12:20,3:15,6:10,9:05	AMITYVILLE HORROR R13 1:00,3:00,5:00,7:00,9:00	STAR WARS: EPISODE III GP 11:10,2:05,5.00,7:55,10:50

SHANG CINEPLEX

① STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
12:15, 3:20, 6:25, 9:30

② STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30

③ STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00

④ STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
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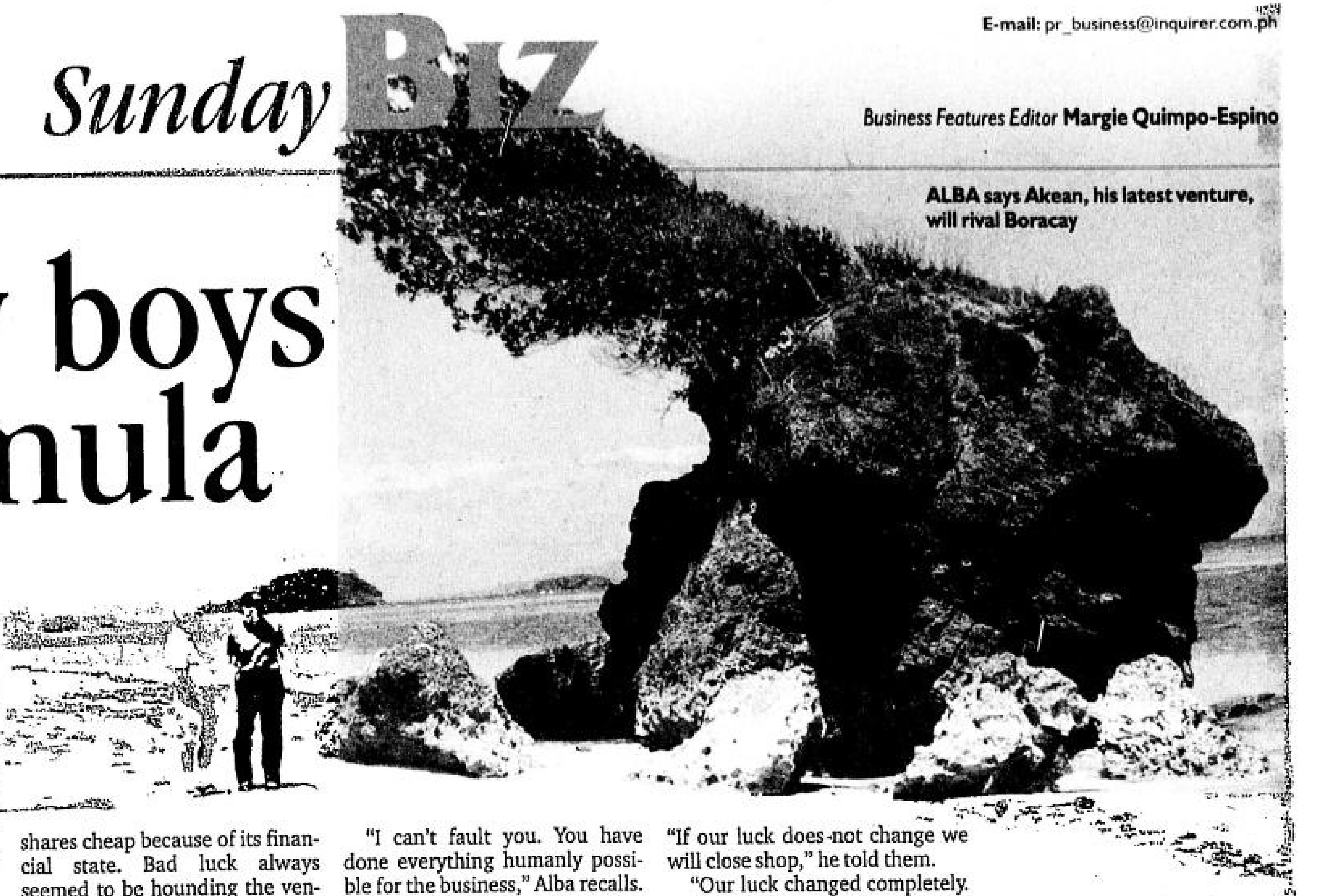
Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

WORK AND PRAYER

He taught city boys a winning formula



ALBA says Akean, his latest venture, will rival Boracay

FRANCISCO A. Alba today

ALBA at 20 years old.

WITH first born Albert, circa mid-60s

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

FRANCISCO A. Alba, chair of Prudential Life Plan Group Inc. and former ambassador to the Vatican, owned an outfit called Cinefilms Inc. which bought films abroad and distributed these to local movie houses.

Cinefilms had been operating at a loss for three years, and was on the verge of bankruptcy. Alba had already bought his partner's shares cheap because of its financial state. Bad luck always seemed to be hounding the venture. "There would be a flood during opening day. Or there would be a storm. This meant your chance to earn would already be reduced to just two days," Alba recalls.

Alba had industrial partners in this venture whom he met with every Sunday. One Sunday they met to assess everything they had done the past six months and realized they did what should be done.

"I can't fault you. You have done everything humanly possible for the business," Alba recalls. Not having anything to say anymore he asked, "as a shot in the dark," "Who among you here did not go to mass this morning?"

His question was met with silence. Two of his partners graduated from the Ateneo; and the other from La Salle, both Catholic schools.

"What? None of you did. You are from Ateneo and you are from La Salle. I am only from UE yet I heard mass this morning," he recalls telling them.

That day they set two rules—all of them would hear mass on Sunday mornings; and during the opening day of their movies which was on Thursdays. "If our luck does not change we will close shop," he told them.

"Our luck changed completely. All our films, even those shown only on TV, earned. We made so much money that the December of that year, I gave them one year bonus," he relates.

He eventually sold Cinefilms when it was still lucrative and moved on to another, bigger venture—he set up Prudentialife, now the country's number one life plan company.

Alba's spirituality came from his maternal grandmother. His mother died when she gave birth to his sister. He was only a toddler. His grandparents got the two siblings and took care of them as the father remarried.

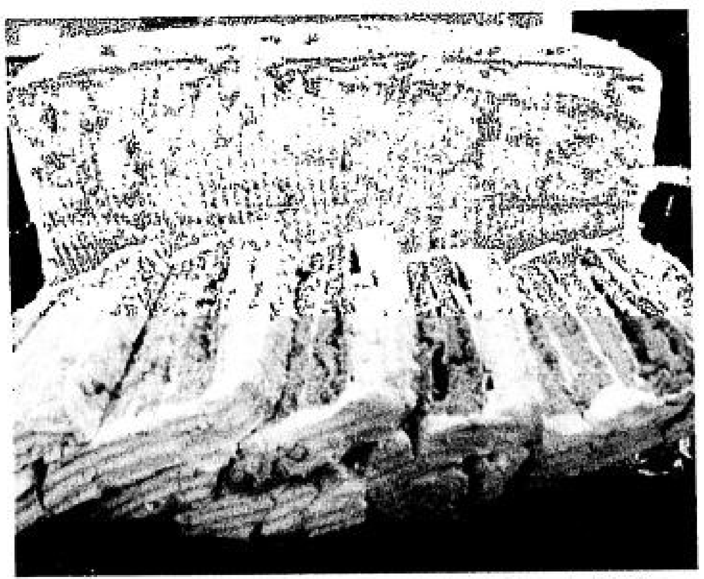
Alba was born and raised in Roxas City in Capiz. His grandparents were farmers who were comfortable in life but very strict in giving out allowances.

Alba says his *lola* always went to mass daily and they would pray the rosary every day. He himself has been going to mass everyday for the past 30 years.

He describes his Vatican stint as "an experience of a lifetime and the highest point was meeting Pope John Paul II."

Alba started his career in the most simplest form—a salesman in a hardware store which required standing for almost ten hours everyday. No fear of hard

HE TAUGHT/ B2



IN DUMAGUETE, this loaf-size sans rival sells for only P220.

Dame's recipes gave rise to sweet ventures

By Alex V. Pal
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—Believing in an old prescription for good luck that a business' first customer should be a male, Trinidad "Trining" Teves-Sagarbarria told her houseboy to be her first customer when she opened her pastry shop in Dumaguete in 1977.

That must have worked well because her store, Sans Rival, along San Jose Street became such a hit. People would often wait in line to sample Sagarbarria's specialties—sans rival and sylvanas.

One reason they had to wait was because the shop was very small. With only four tables, it could only seat no more than 12 people at any time.

Her sans rival comes only in one size—like a loaf of bread. It is packaged in a shoe box-type carton. It sells for only P220.

"We had urged our mother to expand the business but she would always tell us that she was too old and would rather have us, her children, take care of that," said Trinidad "Chining" Sagarbarria-Bustamante, the shop's operations manager.

"Our mother had a passion for baking. She loved to feed her children," Chining recalls.

Trining belonged to the wealthy Manuel Teves clan of Negros Oriental who spent most of her time in the kitchen.

She was married to Manuel Sagarbarria, a Germany-trained chemist who worked at the Central Azucarera de Bais until his retirement in 1970. He passed away in 1994 at the age of 84.

TRINIDAD Teves-Sagarbarria, the lady who started Sans Rival.

Trining not only baked and cooked for her family when she was younger; she also cooked for her relatives who were among her most satisfied customers.

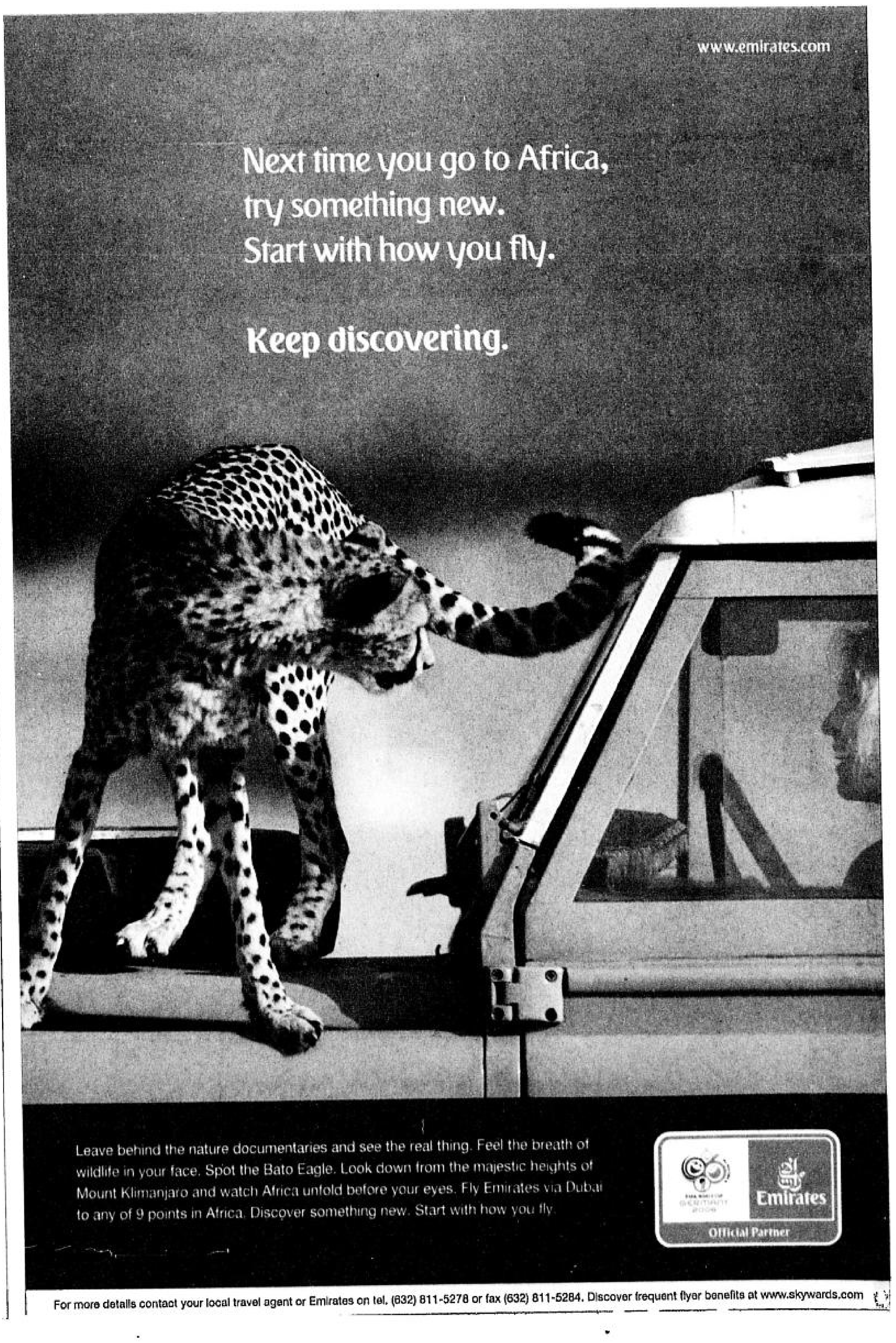
Her workforce consisted of her loyal househelp, who, through her constant supervision, had mastered recipes she had improvised to suit her clientele's taste.

"Our mother ran her business like she ran her kitchen," Chining says.

After their mother passed away in 2004, at age 84, the six Sagarbarria siblings decided to continue their mother's legacy and expand the business, further giving it a homey look.

Chining, who had just opened a pastry and wedding cake shop in Bacolod City in Negros Occidental where she

RICH/ B10



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ALBA says one of the highlights of his life was meeting Pope John Paul II. Here he presents the "John Paul II, We Love You" papal book—a compilation of photos and stories of the Pontiff's 1995 visit to Manila

ALBA family. (From left) Albert, Francisco, Katrina, Carlos, Sonny

He taught city boys...

From page B1

work and the faith his grandmother instilled in him resulted in his philosophy in life: work and prayer.

"Work and work will not make you successful. Pray and pray without work will not make you successful. You have to combine the two. This was proven with our experience in Cinefilms and was carried through in Prudentialife."

"I always tell the people that work is necessary. God makes it a sin to be lazy."

Alba stayed in Roxas City until high school. Then he was sent to the University of the East in Manila to study accounting. He lived with his mother's sister. While waiting for the Board exams he worked with Go Soc and Sons, then the biggest hardware in Manila. He worked 8 to 6 and got P4 a day—the minimum wage in 1955.

When he passed the board and became a certified public accountant he was moved to the hardware's paint factory in Novaliches and his pay went up slightly to P120 a month. The factory was far and everyday he would walk 1.5 kilometers. When it was raining he would take a cab and it would cost him P1.20. A jeepney ride then would cost 10 centavos, the same price as a bottle of Coke.

ALBA during a US trip

After about a year, he decided to try another field and he got a job as an auditor with San Miguel Corp., in charge of Magnolia products. He liked this job because it had a lot of perks.

"We were given one bottle of beer in the morning and one bottle in the afternoon. Every month, during inventory, we had all the ice cream we could eat,"

But SMC did not prove to be his last stop. An opportunity came to be part of a start-up. He was asked to be the auditor of Ysmael Steel in 1963, the same year he got married to the former Zenaida Tiongco who passed away four years ago.

"It was a good opportunity for advancement. I started as an auditor and I got to see the Philippines for free because I traveled to visit several branches to audit them," he says.

Ysmael Steel then also owned an appliance line with the brand Admiral that had dealerships all over the country. Later on Alba got two dealership—his first entrepreneurial venture.

"I've always wanted to go into business but I never had the money to put up one," he shares. Until Ysmael.

While he was with Ysmael, a friend, Vic Puyat, had been consulting with him on a memorial plan business the Puyats were setting up—Loyola Plans. Puyat eventually hired Alba to be in charge of finance and later on marketing and sales.

In the book, The Guiding Hands, the story of Alba and Prudentialifers, it stated that Puyat promised him and top executives stock options which never came. This despite the P100 million gross sales Alba and his team made in seven years. Alba opted to retire.

He left without knowing what to do. But the entrepreneurial spirit in him was strong and with partners, brought in the first bump cars in the country. They offered the fun rides at the Fiesta Carnival in Cubao—a very popular family place in the 70s.

He was tasked with closing the bump cars ride every night and shares that they would earn as much as P20,000 a day during that time—1977. They eventually opened another branch in Cebu.

After retirement his sales people would still call him and talk about how demoralized with them.

"Clearly many of them were depressed by my leaving. I sensed a moral obligation to them , having started them in the memorial plan trade. After numerous runs with my former sales people, I decided I can encourage them in their lives and in business by setting up my own firm."

On May 8, 1978 Pudential Life Plan Inc. was born. His strategy was to build in the provinces first as the leading players were already strong in the Metro Manila.

It was a struggle and after two and a half years he had to mortgage his house to continue the business. By the third year they broke even. The big break came in 1982 when the Armed Forces of the Philippines gave them a cash sale worth P35 million, the single largest pre-need sale then. The struggle continued for five years but the hard work and prayers worked and today, Prudentialife has P36 billion in assets, P12.8 billion in trust fund, 1,000 employees in 400 offices in over 60 towns and key cities, some 30,000 sales associates.

Four years ago, Alba passed on the reins of Prudentialife to eldest son Albert.

These days the simple boy from Capiz, who has since remarried the former Teresa Rodriguez is focusing his attention on the development of a beach front property in Caticlan, Aklan, a boat ride from Boracay. Alba set up Akean Resorts Inc., to spearhead the development which will take in partners.

Akean means paradise in the local dialect. Alba boasts the beach rivals Boracay but its development will be better planned. Novotel, a big French firm in the hospitality business has expressed interest to join in the development.

Alba expects to ground break this year.

With the new venture, Alba will still adhere to his philosophy that all work with no pray will not spell success.

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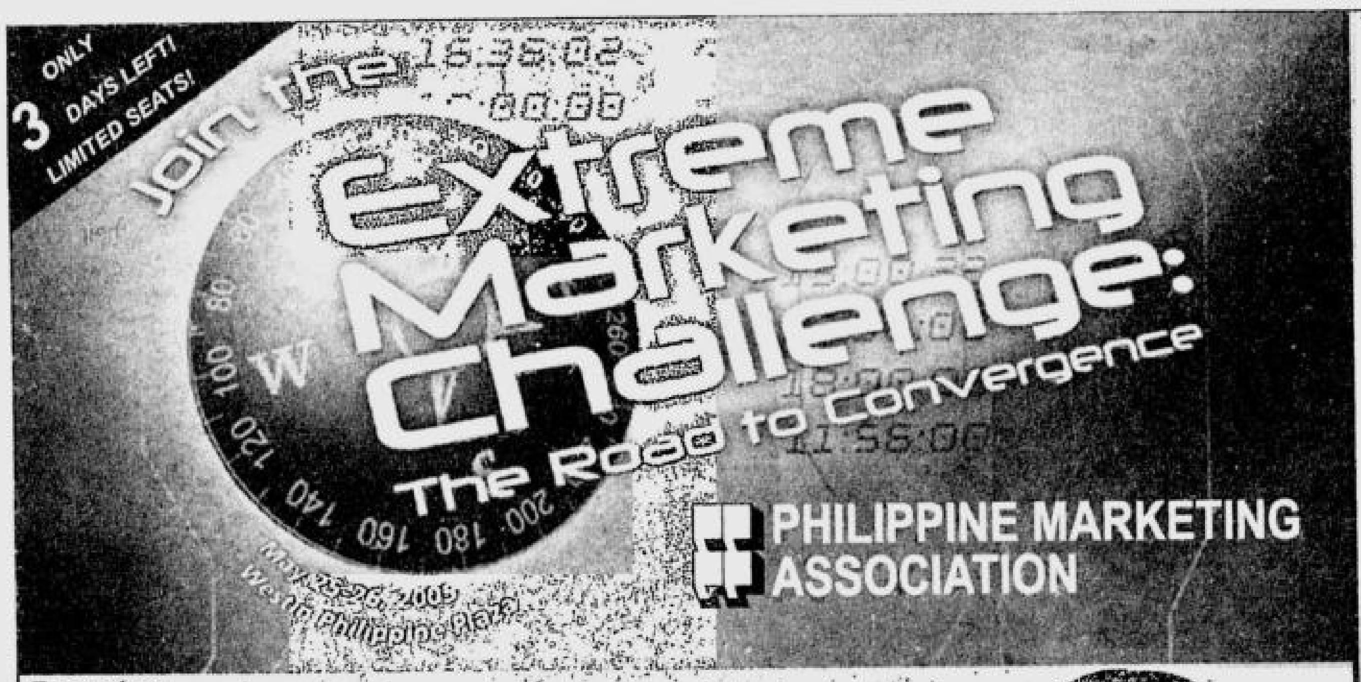

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DAY 1 : May 25, 2005
Session Chair: Dr. Nick C. Fontanilla
President, The Asia Pacific Center for Research

Keynote Address
Mr. Robert de Ocampo
President, Asian Institute of Marketing

Session One:
A Business Philosophy for Extreme Marketing: Pushing Your Limits in a Crisis Economy

Speaker: **Mr. Bienvenido Policarpio**
Executive Vice President, Prudential Group of Companies
President, Dale Carnegie Philippines

Session Two:
Customer Relationship Management: Building Technology to the Extreme

Speaker: **Mr. Mark Yambot**
Director for Corporate Affairs, Microsoft Philippines, Inc.

Session Three:
Pain Makes Gains: Pharmaceutical Companies Going Beyond Pain

Speaker: **Mr. Carlos "Do" Ejercito**
President, United Laboratories Group

Session Four:
The New Empire: Shaping the Future of High-Rise Condominiums

Speaker: **Mr. Luke Tan**
Director, Investor Relation, Megaworld,

Session Five:
Challenging Global Brands through Sports Marketing Events

Speaker: **Mr. Christophe Bezu**
CEO, Adidas-Salomon AG,
Hong Kong

For full programme schedule and other details:

Tel. Nos.: 634-4890; 633-9470; 633-6035
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Email: sarahpv@pldtdsl.net
pma@philonline.com

Day 2 : May 26, 2005
Session Chair: Dr. Karen De Asis
Marketing Consultant
Marketing Director, La Salle Graduate School

Session Six:
Mega Formulas for Extreme Marketing from a Marketing Guru

Speaker: **Mr. Hermawan Kartajaya**
President & Leading Service Officer, MarkPlus&Co.

Session Seven:
Advertising Convergence: Bringing Filipino Consumers Closer to the Brand through Humor

Speaker: **Mr. Joselito B. Ortega**
Chairman & CEO, BrandLab, Inc.

Session Eight:
The New Imperative in Today's Convergence in Marketing: Sustainable Growth

Speaker: **Mr. Gavin Coombes**
Vice President, Euro RSCG Asia Pacific

Session Nine:
Mall Mania: Shop Until You Drop!

Speaker: **Ms. Grace F. Magno**
Head of Marketing, Araneta Group of Companies

Session Ten:
New Rules in Market Leadership: Success Stories in Non-traditional Bank Marketing

Speaker: **Mr. Tomas Victor Mendoza**
SAVP, Banco de Oro Universal Bank

Session Eleven:
Creativity on the Edge: Media & Marketing Convergence

Speaker: **Mr. Nicanor C. Gabunada**
Senior Vice President for Integrated Sales & Marketing, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Company

Closing Session:
The Road to Recovery through Market Convergence

Speaker: **Mr. Jose Jesus F. Roces**
Professor, Asian Institute of Management (AIM)
President, Asia Pacific Marketing Federation (APMF)

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Diverse Opportunities

At Accenture, having a long-term career – not just jobs – can never be more true.

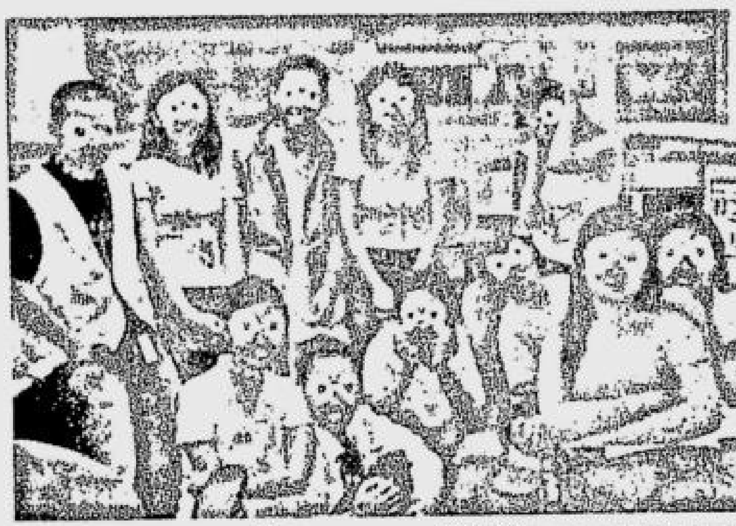
It's a diverse world where people of different backgrounds merge in one culture that simultaneously promotes global competitiveness and personal development. Such is reflected in the experiences of Jhoan Marie Leynes and Maria Delaguiron, accountants, Denchu Decino, a former sales and operations professional, Reg Arevalo, a former call center agent, and Alex Teehankee, a former telecommunications analyst, at Accenture's Manila Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) Delivery Centre.

They are all part of Accenture's Services workforce in the Philippines, one of the large Accenture workforce in Asia that provides expertise in highly specialized business operations in different areas for long-term clients. They are part of the team that currently supports six major U.S. clients, with contracts ranging from three to seven years.

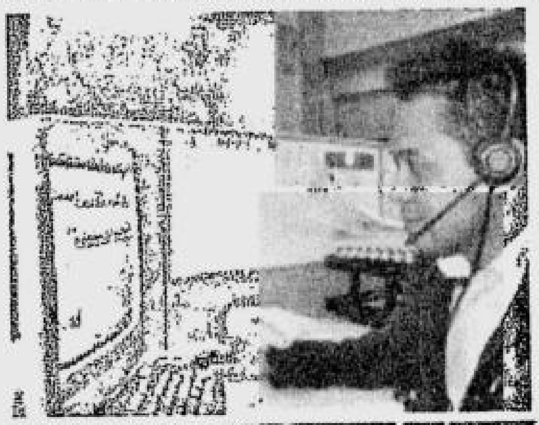
All five have been proud employees of Accenture's Manila BPO Delivery Centre for more than a year now, and they seem convinced that along with the growth opportunities for the business process outsourcing industry in the near future are the same growth opportunities that await them and future members of their team.

>>Accenture BPO's History

Accenture is a recognized global leader in the consulting and technology service business. But not so many people know that it has been successfully doing business process outsourcing – now commonly called BPO – for more than a decade now, before the business was even coined as such.



According to Mr. Nonie Arboleda, Accenture's Manila BPO Delivery Centre Lead, about 15 years ago, Accenture developed an accounting application for a client in the oil industry. Given Accenture's familiarity with the application and since the function was considered non-core to the oil company, the client asked Accenture to run the business processes supported by the application so they could concentrate on their core business. This turned out to be extremely beneficial to the client and Accenture. Eventually, Accenture was able to offer the same service of running non-core functions to other players in that industry. Similar engagements for other clients in other industries also started taking shape. These arrangements eventually developed into the beginnings of Accenture's global BPO business.



In the Philippines, Accenture's entry into the BPO industry started five years ago with *Navitaire*, an Accenture-owned entity which is an Application Service Provider (ASP) to the airline industry. One aspect of its operation is handling outsourced complex passenger revenue accounting activities for some large North American carriers. It was in 2003 though that offshore BPO started really taking off, particularly for Accenture Manila when the first outsourced client operation was brought to the Manila Centre.

Today, Accenture's Manila BPO Delivery Centre supports accounting and finance operations such as general accounting, accounts payable and receivables, plus health industry specific processing like enrollment, membership accounting, claims processing and adjudication. Soon, Mr. Arboleda adds, the Manila Centre is looking to support human resources, procurement, learning and more industry specific processes.

It's a fast growing business. Since its inception two-and-a-half years ago, the Manila BPO Delivery Centre workforce has grown to nearly a thousand today. And with their expansion plans for the business they are looking for many more talented and motivated individuals to be part of their growing team.

>> The BPO Buzz

Contact centers were the only known outsourcing opportunity for a time, until advocates started naming all the other outsourcing forms such as medical and legal transcription, software development, animation, graphics, engineering, computer-aided design, and business process outsourcing (BPO).

The contact center industry – or call centers – is the more developed outsourcing subsector thus far with more than 70,000 employees earning an estimated $800 million the previous year. With companies around the world recognizing the need to focus more on their respective core businesses, the need for outsourcing other company functions outside of its core is inevitable.

BPO is proving to be yet another budding subsector that the Philippines can champion. Not only do we have a good telecommunications infrastructure, we have quality people who can get the job done, both in the technical and managerial areas.

The META Group – a provider of information technology research, advisory services, and strategic consulting – last year ranked the Philippines among the top countries in terms of availability of knowledge-based workers and jobs, as well as overall quality of labor output.

Mr. Arboleda believes that BPO in the country is not just a "fad" as some would like to believe; it's an industry that will employ a lot of people in the years to come. It is only a matter of time, and Accenture's Manila BPO Delivery Centre is more than prepared to take on the challenge.

>> Pool of Talents

With this in mind, Manila BPO Delivery Centre is looking to get the right people on the team. According to Nonie, hitting 5,000 in the next three to five years is within the realms of probability. And they do not wait for people to go to them – they take active role in ensuring that everyone knows of the vast opportunities waiting for them at Manila BPO Delivery Centre.

The company comes with an offer that is far more than financial rewards. It goes with not just a promise, but a sincere commitment to the employees' personal and professional development. Theirs is an environment Mr. Arboleda describes as collegial. To find out more about the work they do and the work environment, visit their website, www.career.accenture.com/philippines. And should you decide to explore the company's opportunities, it's just a click away to the Services workforce link. You may also wish to email your resume to manila.recmgr@accenture.com.

>> The Winning Team

Accenture has always been proud of its core values as a company: *integrity, respect for individuals, stewardship, client-focus, global network that respects diversity,* and *quality.* To management, these values are not just put on paper. As Mr. Arboleda says, "we live and breathe the core values."

Team members confirm this, as they express appreciation for the investment of the company for their continued development. Decino says, "One of the great things about Accenture is the culture to position employees to succeed. There is a very robust infrastructure in place designed to ensure solid professional development. This could take the form of various training opportunities, open and honest communication with your mentors, as well as numerous opportunities to make interesting ideas come to life. When you work with the best in the industry, you only need to compete with yourself."

And it's not all lip service, as Teehankee shares. "Here at Accenture, there is real-time promotion. In the 15 months that I've been here, I've been promoted to a Team Lead." Accenture's Manila BPO Delivery Centre does not believe in a "one-plan-fits-all" career model. The company considers developing a broad set of skills as the foundation for a career in the company.

Arevalo adds, "The opportunity of working with high performing individuals and learning from their leadership styles is already something not may companies can offer. I have never seen such level of commitment and dedication with the other firms I have worked for in the past."

>> Joining the Team

Accenture's BPO Delivery Centre is committed to being an equal opportunity employer. It is because of this that they are counted as one of the employers of choice. Theirs is a brand that was created through years of experience and expertise. But even with its accomplishments as an organization, Manila BPO Delivery Centre recognizes the potential of each and every individual who is willing to take on the challenge the organization is posing.

People, Events & Products

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Editor Aries Espinosa

Autodesk releases major updates to entire portfolio

AUTODESK Inc announced new versions of its software portfolio, including more than 25 products that help its customers create, manage and share digital assets most effectively, to compete and win. The industry-specific products provide best-in-class solutions for 2D design, basic conceptual design to advanced 3D modeling, animation, visualization, data management and collaboration. With across-the-board focus on productivity improvements, the latest suite of products and solutions enable customers in the manufacturing, building, infrastructure and media and entertainment industries to turn ideas into reality faster than ever before.

In addition, the company is releasing the 20th version of AutoCAD, the de facto standard in 2D design and drafting for engineers and designers. AutoCAD has been the industry standard since the first release of AutoCAD brought professional computerized design tools to the desktops of PC users. The 20th release of AutoCAD 2006 incorporates improvements to its interface for easier data input; annotation enhancements that speed changes to text, hatching and table calculations; and single-click conversion to Autodesk DWF format, allowing instant sharing of designs and related information with anyone through a free downloadable reader.

Thirty members of Autodesk's Developer Network (ADN) are already shipping products or add-on applications compatible with Autodesk's 2006 product line. ADN was created by Autodesk to supply commercial and individual software developers with the resources needed to build specialized software applications that meet the needs of a wide variety of customers, in a broad range of industries. To view the continually-growing list of AutoCAD 2006-compatible applications, visit www.autodesk.com./partnerproducts.

"The Autodesk 2006 suite of products offers quick implementation and ease of use, enabling our customers to realize new efficiencies quickly and enjoy a fast return on investment," said Carol Bartz, chair, president and CEO of Autodesk. "Delivering the strongest product portfolio in our company's history is no small order, so I'd like to personally thank all of the product teams who have continued to execute flawlessly in helping our customers realize ideas for competitive advantage."

Autodesk's major new product releases include:

- Autodesk Inventor 10, the world's best-selling 3D design software for the fourth consecutive year. Inventor 10 introduces comprehensive functional design features that effectively prevent "over-engineering" and save time and money on projects.
- Autodesk Civil 3D 2006, the industry's only 3D civil engineering design program that features a dynamic engineering model to complete projects faster and more accurately.
- Autodesk Map 3D 2006, which connects CAD and GIS data with unique geospatial tools. These tools create and manage map books that combine building and infrastructure details with precision location.
- Autodesk Revit Building 8, incorporating state-of-the-art building information modeling (BIM) capabilities that let architects, designers and engineers work together on a single holistic representation of a building project, to save time and money in the design process.
- AutoCAD 2006, the world's leading customizable and extendable CAD software for 2D and basic conceptual design, detailing and design documentation.
- Autodesk Buzzsaw service which has been enhanced with project portfolio monitoring features and workflow improvements so that project teams can communicate, share, and track project information throughout the lifecycle of the project to keep on schedule and within budget
- Autodesk DWF Composer and DWF Viewer, which enable design professionals to share and revise digital design documents with great accuracy and speed, while ensuring the integrity of all underlying information. Using this digital process, project teams reduce costs and eliminate the typical 2-3 day lag associated with traditional methods and incompatible formats.

NESTLÉ LIPA FACTORY SPONSORS WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Nestlé factory in Lipa, Batangas recently sponsored the launching of the Lipa City Solid Waste Management Program (LCSWMP) with a musical concert held at the Club Victorina. The concert featured top-rated artists such as Apo Hiking Society, Pilita Corales, Dulce, Jose Mari Chan, The Company and Rani Raymundo. Photo show singer Jose Mari Chan, factory manager Nes Mercado and HR head Larry Carranza with their spouses.

INFANTA BOOK AND SONG LAUNCH

A book and song in Infanta, published by BPI Foundation with the Dona Isabel Garia y Fernandez Trust Fund, is launched by its authors and project managers of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Phils, among them (from left) Art Cariaga, Annie Feleo, Babeth Lolarga Fernandez, Fr. Francis Lucas, Rey Lazo, Mickey Fenix, Rey David, Roni Tapia-Merk, Sonny de Castro, Mon Fagtanac and Noel Cabangon.

Helping build communities
Welcome Tubig Para Sa Barangay

PASIG CITY, DRY NO MORE

Some 5,000 resident of Quezon Street and Maglente in Sitio Nagpayong, Barangay Pinagbuhatan in Pasig City recently bade goodbye to dry spells and water-borne diseases after Manila Water inauguration a 'Tubig Para Sa Barangay' project in coordination of Mayor Vicente P. Eusebio. Barangay Pinagbuhatan is one of the farthest municipalities in the Ayala-led water concessionaire's service area, and the beneficiary of over P50 million worth of new pipe-laying programs currently being completed in Pasig City. Rodrigo Asilo, Pinagbuhatan barangay chair; Miguel Navarrete, Manila Water senior group director; Loida Dino, area business director; Mac Cruz, Pasig City councilor ;and Randolph Marcial, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) representative, opened the valve for the Pasig leg of this fast-track program which has brought clean and affordable water supply to over 750,000 urban poor in the east zone of Metro Manila.

Medical Spa offers corporate packages

WITH all the responsibilities, obligations and pressure executives and employees face each day, stress becomes a part of their everyday lives. To help officers and employees deal with this, Living Life Well Medical Spa and Complementary Alternative Medicine Clinic launches corporate packages that are available upon purchase of 20 complete treatment of Lagaya's Meridian Therapy, developed by the clinic's medical director, Dr. Alfonso Lagaya.

Dr. Alfonso Lagaya is the first Director General of the Department of Health's Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (Pitahc) from 1999-2004. He is also a volunteer consultant of the Ospital ng Maynila Medical Center – Department of Family Medicine and a volunteer clinician of the World Health Organization – Western Pacific Regional Office.

Lagaya Meridian Therapy is the first systematic Filipino-Chinese healing technique that combines the safe and effective practices of Filipino folk healers along with western conventional medicine and the ancient traditional Chinese acupressure and acupuncture, enhanced with Pranic Energy healing.

While 20 officers or chosen employees enjoy the healing benefits of Lagaya Meridian Therapy, the rest of the company may visit and avail of any Living Life Well treatment at 30 percent discount upon presentation of company IDs. Their relatives and dependents get up to 20 percent discount.

The corporate package also entitles company representatives to 15 percent discount on the Pain and Stress Relief Techniques for Home and Office training being conducted by Dr. Alfonso Lagaya. The training gives attendees know-how on how to deal and combat aches and pains in 10-minutes using acupressure.

Living Life Well is located at the third floor of Mercury Drug, Glorietta 3, Ayala Center, Makati City. For more information, call 816-4733 or 0917-8020460.

MEGAWORLD HANDS OVER DONATION

Megaworld Foundation, the corporate-giving arm of property giant Megaworld Corp, extended financial assistance to the Teodoro Valencia Foundation, an organization that gives regularly to the wards of Hospicio de San Jose, Elsie Gaches Village, Asilo de San Vicente de Paul, Luwalhati ng Maynila, St. Peregrine Development Center, Golden Acres, Girls' Home, Tahanang Walang Hagdanan and the Philippine National Red Cross. Presenting the donation to Millen de Quiros (right) of the Teodoro Valencia Foundation is Deanna Ang, Megaworld's account management division manager.

The 'green province' in Mindanao

MIGUEL DOMINGUEZ, the 28-year-old Governor of Sarangani province in South Cotabato expressed hope for the tourism industry in his province to take off and he intends to lead the tourism development.

He said Sarangani, which is also known for its pineapples and fish products such as smoked bangus and dried fish, is rich in natural resources.

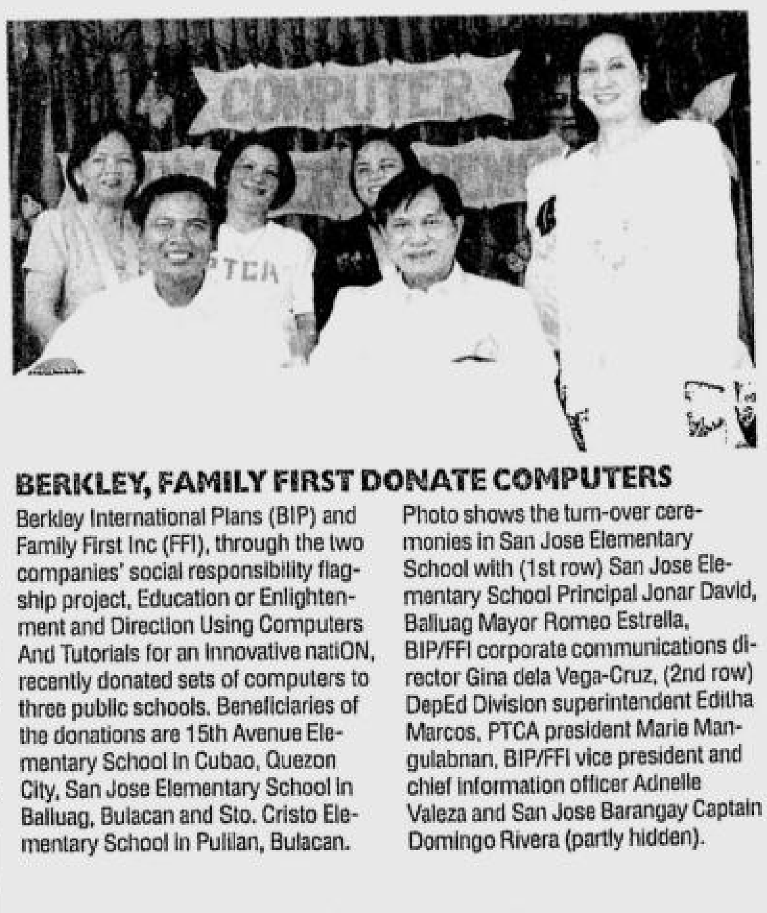
The province located just below General Santos has tarsiers, tubattaha-like reefs, white beaches, and sea areas for dolphin and whale sharks sighting, as well as forest treks, falls and rivers.

"All that's needed," said the young Governor, "is for those involved in the tourism industry and the private sector to develop and market these tourism products."

"Sarangani is a very peaceful province. People should see and experience the place. Local tourists have been coming here and enjoying the beaches and other nature spots." he adds.

Dominguez said he envisions the province to be called the "green province" of South Cotabato someday. "Sarangani is a province which has a high awareness of conservation. Each municipality has its own water treatment facility. We want to package the province as a 'green province'."

Sarangani is currently the focus of the Department of Tourism's Region XII exhibition in Clamshell in Intramuros. The ongoing exhibit features provinces comprising South Cotabato and their products.



BERKLEY, FAMILY FIRST DONATE COMPUTERS

Berkley International Plans (BIP) and Family First Inc (FFI), through the two companies' social responsibility flagship project, Education or Enlightenment and Direction Using Computers And Tutorials for an Innovative natiON, recently donated sets of computers to three public schools. Beneficiaries of the donations are 15th Avenue Elementary School in Cubao, Quezon City, San Jose Elementary School in Baliuag, Bulacan and Sto. Cristo Elementary School in Pulilan, Bulacan. Photo shows the turn-over ceremonies in San Jose Elementary School with (1st row) San Jose Elementary School Principal Jonar David, Baliuag Mayor Romeo Estrella, BIP/FFI corporate communications director Gina dela Vega-Cruz, (2nd row) DepEd Division superintendent Editha Marcos, PTCA president Marie Mangulabnan, BIP/FFI vice president and chief information officer Adnelle Valeza and San Jose Barangay Captain Domingo Rivera (partly hidden).

AN ANGEL VISITS AVON STORES

Global beauty company Avon welcomed a visit from an angel in its stores - Angel Aquino. Angel is one of today's most sought after style icons, host of the trend setting TV program 'F' and Avon Fashions' latest model. Angel Aquino joins international star Lea Salonga and Oscar nominated Hollywood superstar Salma Hayek as part of the family beauties who represent and proudly support Avon's quality products and commitment to women. Photo shows Avon Fashions' model Angel Aquino (fourth from left) with Avon Taft franchise manager Natalia Lavadia, branch sales trainer Nia Santos, branch operations manager Erwin Pablo, branch sales manager Bobeck Burlas, branch sales trainer Nina Bernardo and team leader Lorna Elemos.

Product FILES

Code Red's 4th issue

CODE Red, a family magazine advocating the values of servant-leadership has come out with its fourth issue, April to June 2005. Employing the power of real-life stories, Code Red challenges the Filipino family to come out of its timid box and become the primary agent of social change. Code Red is available at National Bookstores nationwide and PowerBooks-MegaMall, at P95 per copy. For inquiries and subscriptions, call 892-8174 or 817-3738.

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Notice of Search for Southern Leyte State University Presidency
Sogod, Southern Leyte

Minimum Personal Qualifications:

1. Must be a citizen of the Philippines
2. A holder of a Doctorate Degree.
3. Must have a proven track record as top administrator (at least Deanship level), whether in private or public, for at least a period of five (5) years.
4. Must be of good moral character and has no record of criminal, civil and/or administrative conviction.
5. Preferably not more than sixty (60) years old on the date of application.

Note: Qualified applicants are requested to submit the following:

1. Formal Application Letter addressed to:

   Honorable Chairman of the Board of Regents
   Southern Leyte State University
   Sogod, Southern Leyte
   Attention: **The Secretariat**
   Search Committee for Presidency

2. Detailed Curriculum Vitaé and authenticated supporting documents
3. Applicant's Proposed Vision, Mission and Executive Summary of the Development Plan for the university
4. Neuro-psychiatric Examination Result accomplished by any government physician of an accredited health institution (must be submitted sealed directly to the Secretariat)
5. Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness from a government physician
6. Clearance Certificates from the following:
   a. Ombudsman
   b. Sandiganbayan
   c. Civil Service Commission
   d. National Bureau of Investigation

Important: Interested applicants must send the above-mentioned documentary requirements in seven (7) sets/copies to the Search Committee through the Secretariat on or before **JULY 22, 2005.**

1. **MS. MABEL R. CALVA**
   Board Secretary
   Southern Leyte State University
   Sogod Southern Leyte 6606
2. **DR. MARIA RITA C. OHTIZ**
   Officer In-Charge
   Commission on Higher Education
   Regional Office No. VIII
   Tacloban City 6500
3. **JEANETTE B. LUMAPAS**
   Office of Commissioner Carlito S. Puno
   Commission on Higher Education
   DAP Building, Ortigas Center,
   San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INTEGRATED TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM

The **National Transmission Corporation (TransCo)** is pleased to invite applicants to the following programs under its **Integrated Traineeship Program** for **Year 2005:**

- **Cadetship Program** – an on-the-job training for six (6) months intended for graduates of *Electrical and Electronics & Communication Engineering Courses.*
- **Apprenticeship Program** – an on-the-job training for six (6) months intended for graduates of at least two (2) years Technical/Vocational Courses (i.e. Electrical Engineering Technology, Industrial Technology, Electronics Technician, Computer Technician, Aircraft Mechanic, etc.)

These programs will provide new graduates of engineering and technical/vocational courses the opportunity to acquire actual experience in the field of electrical power transmission.

Qualification Requirements:

1. Not more than twenty five (25) years of age;
2. No failing grades in **major subjects**
   (Please bring original Transcript of Records)
3. Must pass the **TransCo Mental Ability, Aptitude and Personality (MAAP) Test** (for applicants to **Apprenticeship Program**) and the **TransCo MAAP and Technical Examinations** (for applicants to **Cadetship Program**)

Only applicants who meet the first two (2) requirements may personally apply on **May 23 – June 8, 2005 (1:30 PM to 4:30 PM** *only*) at the following TransCo Offices:

➢ **Residents of Metro Manila:**

Office & Address	Contact #s
Human Resource Training Division Human Resources Department G/F, TransCo Main Building, Power Center Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City	(02) 981-2139 to 40

➢ **Residents of South Luzon:**

Office & Address	Contact #s
HR/Administration Division – Regional Office San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna	(049) 981-4576
District 1 – Batangas/Cavite Mahabang Parang, Batangas City	(043) 300-3591 (043) 300-3592
District 2 – Laguna/Quezon Barangay Real, Calamba City	(049) 545-1915 (049) 834-01-58
District 3 – Bicol Area Peñalrancia, Daraga, Albay	(052) 824-11-02 (052) 824-7974

➢ **Residents of North Luzon:**

Office & Address	Contact #s
HR/Administration Division – Regional Office Pennsylvania Avenue, Poro Point San Fernando City, La Union	(072) 888-0837 (072) 888-0839
District 1 – Ilocos Area Bauang Substation, Barangay Pottot, Bauang, La Union	(072) 242-1178 (072) 242-1173
District 2 – Mt. Province Area Beckel Substation, La Trinidad, Benguet	(074) 444-7425 (074) 444-7423
District 3 – North Central Plain Area San Manuel Substation, San Manuel, Pangasinan	(075) 565-3267 (075) 656-3268
District 4 – Cagayan Valley Area Santiago Substation, Barangay Rizal, Santiago City, Isabela	(078) 682-8406 (078) 682-8408
District 5 – West Central Plain Area Hermosa Substation, Barangay Balsik, Hermosa, Bataan	(045) 971-6698 (045) 971-6780
District 6 – South Central Plain Area Mexico Substation, Barangay San Jose Matulid, Mexico, Pampanga	(045) 966-0436
District 7 – Northern Tagalog Area San Jose Substation, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan	(044) 691-3330

➢ **Residents of Visayas:**

Office & Address	Contact #s
HR/Administration Division – Regional Office Nasipit, Talamban, Cebu City	(032) 343-9815
District 1 – Panay Area Zone III, Bo. Obrero, Ilo-ilo City	(033) 336-1489 (033) 337-8023
District 2 – Cebu-Bohol Area Banilad Power Center, Nasipit, Talamban, Cebu City	(032) 346-9338
District 3 – Leyte-Samar Area Barangay Milagro, Ormoc City	(053) 561-0140
District 4 – Negros Area Barangay Mansilingan, Bacolod City	(034) 435-4418 (034) 708-6988

➢ **Residents of Mindanao:**

Office & Address	Contact #s
HR/Administration Division – Regional Office Ma. Cristina, Iligan City	(063) 223-6613
District 1 – Northwestern Mindanao Area Rizal Avenue, San Pedro, Pagadian City	(062) 214-1856 (062) 214-1671
District 2 – Lanao Area Overton, Fuentes, Iligan City	(063) 221-6136 (063) 221-6133 (063) 221-6134
District 3 – Northcentral Mindanao Area Agoho Drive, Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City	(088) 227-23716 (088) 227-23744 (088) 858-6047
District 4 – Northeastern Mindanao Area J.C. Aquino Avenue, Butuan City	(085) 815-2178 (085) 342-8293 (085) 225-2147
District 5 – Southeastern Mindanao Area 3rd Floor, D&G Bldg., corner Yellowville & Sampaguita Mintal, Davao City	(082) 293-0208 (082) 293-0599 (082) 293-0205
District 6 – Southwestern Mindanao Area Calumpang, General Santos City	(083) 553-2819 (083) 552-3269

For applicants to the **Cadetship Program**, only those who passed the MAAP examination are qualified to take the **technical examination** scheduled on **July 2, 2005** for **Luzon** and **July 9, 2005** for **Visayas/Mindanao.**

The on-the-job training will start from August 1, 2005 to February 1, 2006.

(PDI - May 22, 2005)

SALES REPRESENTATIVE
STORE ASSISTANTS
PHARMACISTS

- Male or Female, 20 to 25 years old
- Graduate of any 4years course
- Pharmacist applicant must be duly licensed
- Can work with minimal supervision
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Qualified applicant shall receive standard salary, allowances & commissions.

Interested parties may apply personally at:

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Madison st. Mandaluyong city Tel. 719-0000

ACCOUNTANTS

Submit resumé via email to dinah@ppros.com.ph or to CCI c/o PPrOS Unit 10 G 10th flr., Strata 100 Bldg. Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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FICOBank
First Isabela Cooperative Bank, Inc.
Corporate Office
Cauayan City, Isabela

INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR THE CONDUCT OF A THREE YEAR DETAILED STRATEGIC PLAN

The First Isabela Cooperative Bank, Inc. or FICOBank invites interested Consultants to submit a Proposal for the conduct and formulation of a 3-year Detailed Strategic Plan. Consultancy Firms who have an extensive experience in Bank Marketing is preferred.

Interested parties may obtain the Terms of Reference (TOR) and other Pre-qualification Documents as basis for proposal, from the Planning Department of FICOBank upon payment of non-refundable amount of P1,000.00. Deadline for the submission of Proposals is on 31 May 2005, 5:00 pm.

For more information, please contact Ms. Carlyn M. Viloria in any of the following numbers (078) 634-5258, 634-5260, 634-5390, 652-2675, 652-3364 or through our email addresses: ficobank@nscv.com and fico_bank@yahoo.com.

HERMINIO C. OCAMPO
President and CEO

(PDI – May 22, 2005)

NEECO II

NUEVA ECIJA II ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Calipahan, Talavera, Nueva Ecija
Tel./Fax : 044-4111007
Email neeco2@digitelone com

INVITATION TO BID NO. NE II-DOE-EF-2005-001

The Department of Energy pursuant to Department Circular No. 95-11-009 under Energy Regulations No. 1-94 Implementing Section 5 (I) of Republic Act No. 7638, as amended and its attendant rules and procedures, has allocated from its Electrification Fund (EF) an amount to be made available to Nueva Ecija II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (NEECO II) for the electrification projects in the province of Nueva Ecija as per Notice to Proceed No. EF 2002-633 dated May 14, 2002.

Nueva Ecija II Electric Cooperative, Inc (NEECO II) invites sealed Bids from eligible bidders for the construction of the following distribution lines:

Location	Kilometers of Line				Approved Budget
	2Ø	1Ø	U B	O S.	
1 Brgy. Tibag, Talugtug	–	4 01	0 88	0 84	1,502,835.14
2 Brgy Tandoc, Talugtug	–	2 10	1 27	1 37	957,748 88
3 Brgy Sto Domingo, Lupao	–	3 56	0 28	0 75	1,564,772 02
4 Brgy Villa Boado, Talugtug	–	3 52	1 44	0 92	1,341,966 60
5 Brgy Minula, Carranglan	8.09	0.90	7 08	0 97	4,030,005 08
6 Brgy. Calisitan, Talugtug	–	1 49	0 21	0 21	686,990 04
TOTAL	11.15	13.50	13.31	3.72	10,084,317.76

Only bids within the approved budget will be accepted. Bidders are also required to bid for the whole package only.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased, starting May 23, 2005 by eligible bidders upon submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00)**

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the office of the PBAC, NEECO II, Calipahan, Talavera, Nueva Ecija, Tel. No (044) 411-1007 Pre-bid Conference will be held on June 10, 2005, 9 00 A.M. at NEECO II Board Room also of the same address.

Sealed proposals in two (2) copies will be received by the PBAC at Plaza Leticia, Maharlika High Way, Cabanatuan City, at exactly 10 A M., June 17, 2005 at which time and place of said proposal will be opened and read in the presence of Bidders or Bidder's representative who choose to attend.

All bids submitted must be accompanied by A Bid Security equivalent to **TWO AND A HALF PERCENT (2.5%)** of the Bid Price.

NEECO II hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects therein, and accept the bid that is most advantageous to the Cooperative

(Sgd) **ENGR. REYGINO T. LAGASCA**
PBAC Chairman

(PDI–May 21 & 22, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

NOTICE OF VACANCY

The Project entitled "Development and Testing of Innovative Approaches for Mainstreaming Indigenous Peoples in Selected Agrarian Reform Communities" funded by the Japanese Government and being implemented by the Department of Land Reform (DLR) jointly with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is in urgent need of qualified applicants to occupy the post of:

NATIONAL JSDF-IP COORDINATOR

Engagement Period : 23 person months starting June 2005

Duties and Responsibilities: The National JSDF-IP Coordinator shall be responsible in the day-to-day operation of the Project. With policy and management guidance from the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and the Technical Working Group (TWG), he/she will coordinate project implementation following the provisions of the grant and project agreements (with the World Bank) and the project's Operations Manual approved by the Project Management Board and the World Bank. He/she shall be responsible to ensure that the required outputs of the different components are delivered by respective implementers and these are integrated into the project completion report at the end of the project implementation. He/she shall be supported by a junior technical staff that will be contracted by the Project.

Specifically, the National JSDF-IP Coordinator will be tasked to:

1. Report regularly at the ARCDP2 Central Project Office and be in charge of the day to day activities of the grant assistance based on the approved Work Plan and Budget and synchronization of all project components;

2. Take the lead in the preparation of the Annual Work and Financial Plan in coordination with responsible units of ARCDP2 CPO and in coordination with project implementers such as NCIP and LGUs for review by the Technical Working Group and approval by the Project Steering Committee;

3. Coordinate and monitor the implementation of the project with NCIP and other relevant agencies;

4. Convene and coordinate the Technical Working Group and Project Steering Committee meetings with the concerned officers and members. The National JSDF-IP Coordinator shall also be tasked to document the meetings, copies of which shall be provided to the committee members one week after the conduct of a particular meeting for review;

5. Consolidate and prepare overall monthly, quarterly and annual progress reports for the project and provide the Chief Technical Advisor and the Technical Working Group a report containing its analysis of the progress and issues together with appropriate recommendations;

6. Prepare procurement documentation in coordination with the ARCDP2 Finance and Admin Chief and monitor works under contract (for Components A and B) and report to the Chief Technical Advisor and the Technical Working Group its findings/observations;

7. Coordinate with the Unit Heads of ARCDP2 in the implementation of Component D of the Project;

8. Generate and supervise data management for the Grant Assistance.

9. Appraise subproject proposals submitted by IP communities for review by the Technical Working Group and approval by the Project Steering Committee, and

10. Coordinate with DLR, NCIP and other agencies the conduct of consultations/workshops;

Minimum Qualification Requirements: The National JSDF-IP should have a Master's Degree of any social science course and should be familiar and knowledgeable on the ARC Development Framework of the Department of Land Reform. He/she should have at least 3 years experience in IP Development Planning and Implementation of World Bank community driven type of projects. Familiarity with the IPPA law and in Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP) preparation and experience in working with NCIP is also required. The National JSDF-IP Coordinator should also be willing to travel.

Applicants who meet the above minimum qualification requirements may apply and submit three copies of comprehensive resumé with photocopy of diploma and recent 2x2 photo, not later than June 15, 2005 to:

The Chief Technical Advisor
Second Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project
FAPSO Annex Building, DLR Compound
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

(Sgd.) **GERUNDIO C. MADUEÑO**
Undersecretary for SSO
Project Implementation Officer, FAPSO

(PDI–May 22, 2005)

THE
HERITAGE PARK
FORT BONIFACIO
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12:00 noon
Day before publication

In loving memory On the 1st Death Anniversary of

Conrado "Chuck" C. Gozun

(July 4, 1950 – May 24, 2004)

His wife, **Bebet**, daughter, **Karla** and son, **Jose Antonio**, requests relatives and friends to pray for the eternal repose of his soul and to remember him always in their prayers.

A Holy Mass will be said at 6:00 pm on May 24 at the Ateneo College Chapel, Gonzaga Bldg., Ateneo de Manila University, Katipunan Avenue, Quezon City.

Masses will also be offered in his memory at the following churches:

St. Paul of the Cross *SSS Village, Marikina City*	May 24 6:00 am & 6:00 pm
Immaculate Concepcion Parish *Concepcion, Marikina City*	May 24 6:00 am & 6:00 pm
Sta. Maria della Strada Parish *Katipunan Ave., Quezon City*	May 24 6:00 am & 6:00 pm
Christ the King Parish *Green Meadows Avenue, Quezon City*	May 24 6:00 am & 6:00 pm
Our Lady of Hope Parish *Pag-asa, Quezon City*	May 24 6:30 am
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel *Project 6, Quezon City*	May 24 6:00 am

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I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6

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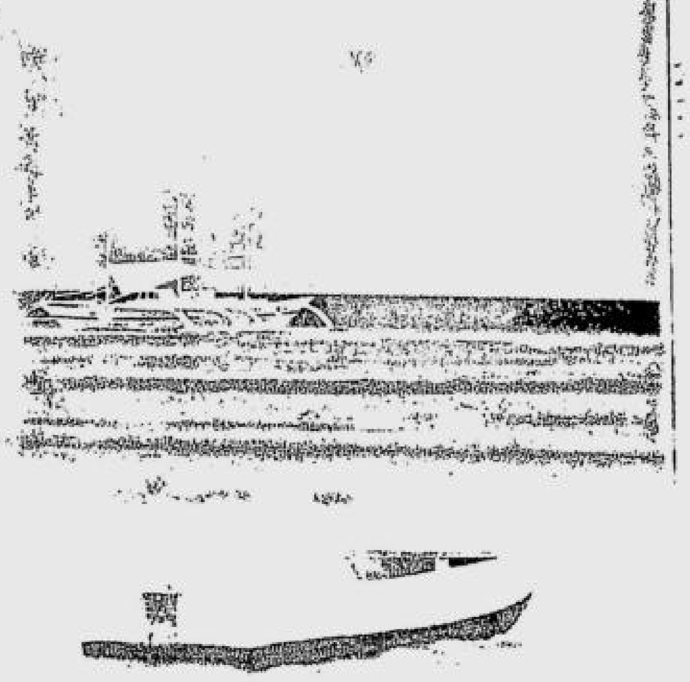


CLASSIFIEDS

UNDP
Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Philippines regularly undertakes emergency relief operations in various parts of the country affected by natural, man-made or other unusual calamities, disasters. and catastrophic events hitting the country. These activities are performed by UNDP in coordination and cooperation with the other UN Agencies, the Donor Community, partner Government Agencies and Non-Government Organizations.

As part of its operational preparedness, UNDP would like to enter into a long-term agreement (LTA) with suppliers of goods that are commonly procured in huge volumes for relief operations, through a competitive selection process. Such LTAs will enable UNDP to minimize response time, achieve cost efficiency, and deliver on time the goods and services to affected areas and communities from various parts of the country.
UNDP would like to invite suppliers and providers for the following goods and services:

Services	• Trucking services – 24x7 delivery, loading and unloading of relief goods to and from relief operation areas • Packing and Labelling of a variety of relief goods for distribution based on area-specific needs, requirement or conditions
Essential Goods	• Bottled water, rice, sugar, iodized salt, coffee, powdered milk, cooking oil, instant noodles, dried fish, canned goods (sardines, meatloaf, corned beef, sausages, etc.)
Non-Essential Goods	• Family size blanket, mosquito nets, native mats, towels • Basic Toiletries (Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Bath Soap) • Flashlight w/ 2 batteries, Plastic sacks, Garbage bags

Interested bidders may offer other related goods aside from those listed above. The price list should be based on different packaging sizes of each type of goods.

All prices should be free from all duties and taxes, and should be valid for the next twelve (12) months.

Interested bidders are required to submit the following documents :

- Company Profile;
- Registration Papers (SEC w/ Articles of Incorporation, DTI, Mayor's Permit, VAT, etc.);
- List of Branches or Distribution Network;
- Track Record in supplying to institutional clients in huge volumes;
- Proposed Methodology for Providing Goods/Service, specifically indicating procedures, delivery/response time, invoicing/payment requirements, etc.; and
- Price list of Goods/Services

UNDP does not and cannot guarantee nor commit any volume within the 12-month validity of the price.

Deadline for the submission of bids is on 24 June 2005. All bids should be addressed to :

Development Support Services Center (DSSC)
United Nations Development Programme
30th Floor Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza
6819 Ayala Ave. cor. Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, 1226 Makati City
Tel. No. (632) 901-0270 or 901-0273 Fax No. (632) 901-0200 or 889-7177

UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer. UNDP assumes no obligation or responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made for this Contract.

(Sgd) ETHELIND B. CAPUNO
Manager, DSSC

SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY, CANDON CITY OFFICIALS &
MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS, 2nd DISTRICT, ILOCOS SUR
CORN FARMERS SUPPORT PROGRAM
INITIATED BY
Congressman ERIC D. SINGSON
KEA SOCIAL HALL, CANDON CITY
11 APRIL 2005, 2:00

NFA LAUNCHES PREMIUM PRICING PROGRAM FOR CORN IN ILOCOS SUR

National Food Authority Assistant Administrator Ludovico Jarina addresses corn farmers and government workers during the launching of the NFA's Corn Marketing Assistance Program for Industry Producers/Users and Local Government Units (CMAPIPULGU) in Candon City, Ilocos Sur recently. Under the program, the local government unit will put an additional premium price from the NFA's current corn buying price of P7 per kilogram. Congressman Eric D. Singson of Ilocos Sur (seated, third from right), vowed to provide an additional P1.25 per kilogram on top of NFA's buying price increasing the current buying price to P8.25 per kilogram. Others in photo are (from right), Mayor Roque Versoza, San Esteban; Mayor Allen Singson, Candon City; and Regional Director Joseph dela Cruz, NFA Region I.

PAGCOR
Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
A Global Corporation with a Global Mindset and a Filipino Heart

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITB No.: 04-31-2005

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Name of Project	:	One (1) lot Janitorial Service – CF-Davao
Brief Project Description	:	One (1) year Janitorial Service Contract Total Floor Area: 5,753.02 square meters Required Personnel : 38 Janitors
Approved Budget		Three Million Nine Hundred Eighty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Nine & 36/100 Pesos (Php 3,989,799.36)
Source of Fund		Internally Funded

Only contractors dully registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in tge bidding. Unregistered contractors must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Division (SRED), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita Mla., Tel. No. 526-0573 or at the Branch Procurement and Property Office, Casino Filipino Davao, Tel. No. 305-2041.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from May 12, 2005 to June 3, 2005** at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate or at the Branch Procurement and Property Office, Casino Filipino Davao payment of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four & 90/100 (Php 1,994.90). In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

Pre-Bid Conference	May 24, 2005 (4:00 p.m.)
Submission of Bids	June 6, 2005 (2:00 p.m.)
Opening of Bids	June 6, 2005 (2:00 p.m. onwards)

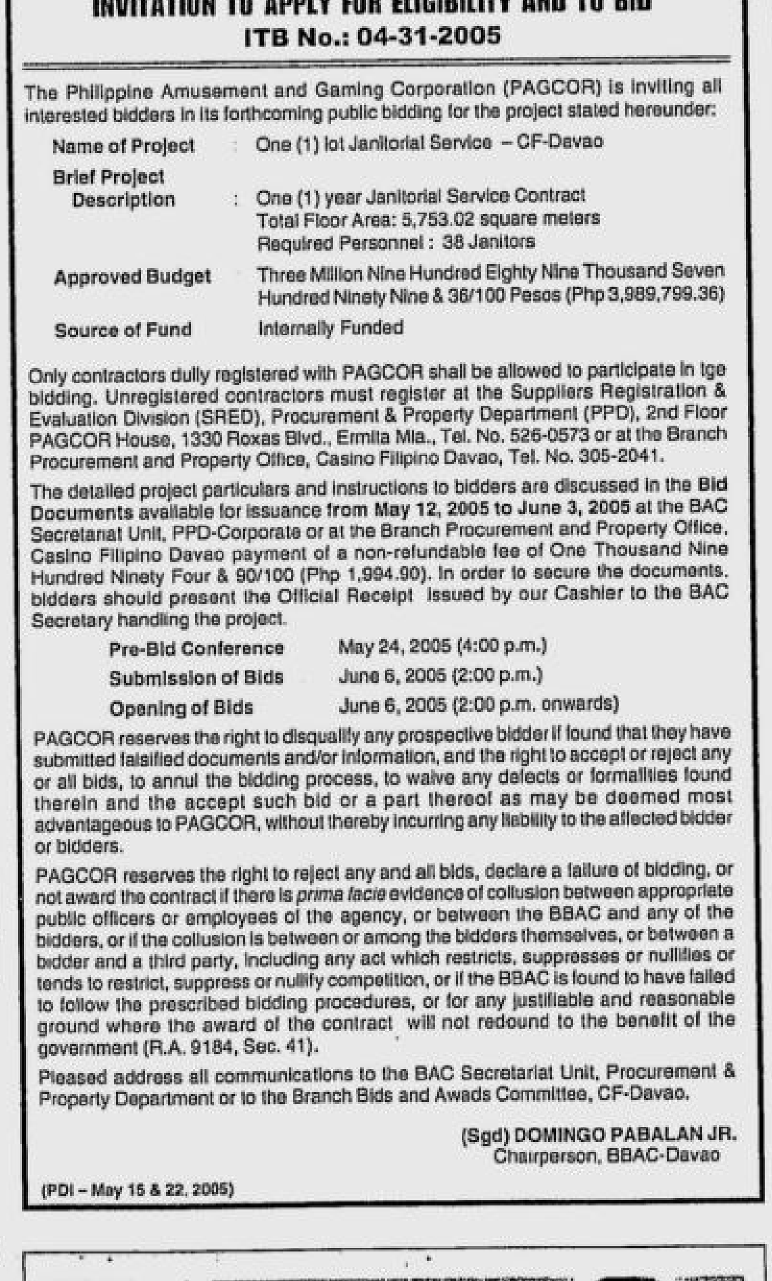
PAGCOR reserves the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and the accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BBAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BBAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Pleased address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department or to the Branch Bids and Awads Committee, CF-Davao.

(Sgd) DOMINGO PABALAN JR.
Chairperson, BBAC-Davao

(PDI – May 15 & 22, 2005)



MIKE MALAGHAN FORUM

Mike Malaghan, direct sales guru during a forum held at the Inquirer Pantry.

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Arlington attends OGR confab

RAFAEL Jose of Arlington Memorial Chapels Inc recently returned from the annual conference of the international order of the Golden Rule (OGR), a worldwide professional association of locally and family-owned Golden ule funeral homes. The meeting titled "Going for the Gold" was held on April 13 to 16, at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. It was attended by over 200 members and other funeral service professionals from across North America and overseas. The conference which stressed the importance of quality service standards, achievement and excellence was tailored to the educational needs of OGR members, owners of their local funeral home businesses. In addition to offering opportunities to earn continuing education credit, attendees learned new skills, were give demonstrations of the latest innovations, memorialization options and technologies, held discussions on key issues facing the funeral professions, met with companies that service funeral home clients, and heard presentations by industry experts centering on the needs of grieving family. Visit **www.golden-rule.com** for helpful information on funeral and memorialization practices, cremation, grief and other topics.

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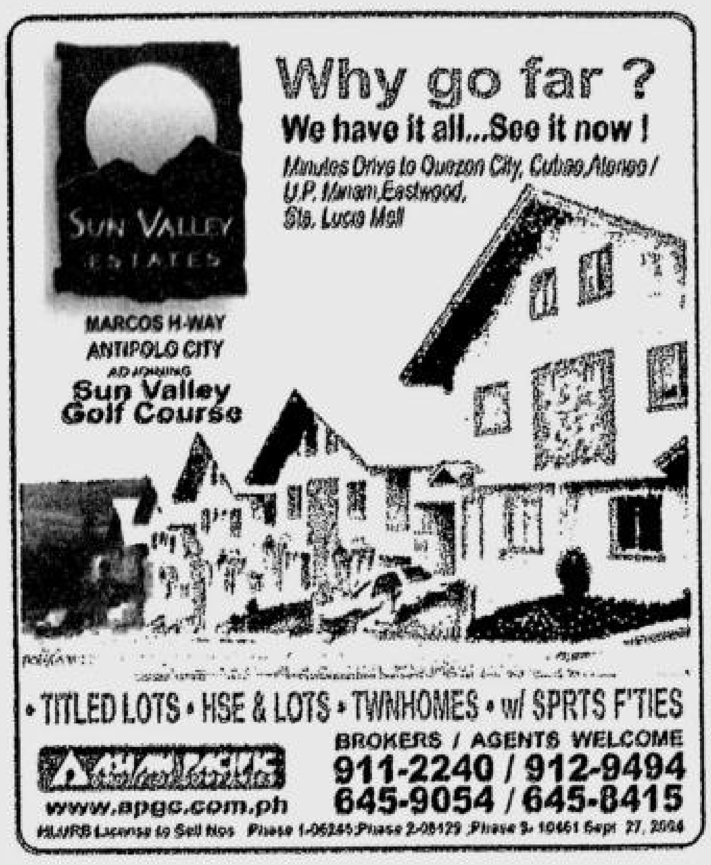

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Lot 1 – Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA3,464sqm Lot nos. 2041-A & 2041-B Along Regidor & Lakandula Sts., Brgy. Binitayan, Daraga
Minimum Bid Price P13,163,200.00

Lot 2 – Res'l. Lot LA 500 sqm
Lot 2559-H-4, Brgy. San Lorenzo, Tabaco City
Minimum Bid Price P 212,500.00

Lot 3 – Comm'l. Lot
LA17,859sqm Lot Nos.1338-A-1 to A-4 & 1340 Peñaranda Ext., Brgy. Bonot, Port District, Legaspi City
Minimum Bid Price P23,543,775.00

BATANGAS

Lot 4 – Res'l. Lot LA 540 sqm
Lot 4 Malvar St, Poblacion, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 2,025,000.00

Lot 5 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 311 sqm, FA 240 sqm
North side of Taal Cuenca National Road, Bgy San Jose, Alitagtag
Minimum Bid Price P 684,200.00

Lot 6 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 884sqm, FA 121sqm
Hernandez St. Brgy. II,Mataas na Kahoy
Minimum Bid Price P 2,168,657.00

Lot 7
LA
V.
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price P 2,831,340.00

Lot 8 - Res'l. Lot LA 150 sqm
L7 Victomar Subd. Brgy. 4, Poblacion, Mataas na Kahoy
Minimum Bid Price P 357,000.00

Lot 9-Agricultural Lot LA50,000sqm
Bo Pinagkawitan, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P11,250,000.00

Res'l. Lots, Burgos St, Lipa Royale Subd, Brgy. Inosluban, Lipa City
Lot 10 – L11 Blk5 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 446,250.00
Lot 11 – L12 Blk5 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 446,250.00
Lot 12 – L13 Blk5 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 446,250.00
Lot 13 – L21 Blk5 LA 265 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 788,375.00
Lot 14 – L78 Blk5 LA 303 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 901,425.00

Lot 15 - Industrial Lot LA76,014sqm
Lot 14585 Brgy. Road, Brgy Talisay (North), Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 7,601,400.00

Lot 16 sqm
Along
Road City
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price P [illegible],850.00

Lot 17 – Res'l. Lot LA 288 sqm
L24 Blk7Anastacia St. Villa Rosa Subd.BrgyAntipolo del Norte.LipaCity
Minimum Bid Price P 604,800.00

Res'l. Lots, Tierra Vista Subd, Brgy. Sabang, Lipa City
Lot 18 – L6 Blk22 LA 227.82 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 553,850.00
Lot 19 – L15 Blk22 LA 157.50 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 346,500.00
Lot 20 – L17 Blk22 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00
Lot 21 – L7 Blk28 LA 162.41 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 357,302.00
Lot 22 – L9 Blk28 LA 167.37 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 368,214.00
Lot 23 – L4 Blk27 LA 155.40 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 341,880.00
Lot 24 – L5 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00

BATANGAS

Res'l. Lots, Tierra Vista Subd, Brgy. Sabang, Lipa City
Lot 25 – L6 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00
Lot 26 – L7 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00
Lot 27 – L9 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00

Lot 28 - Res'l. Lot LA 271 sqm
Lot7 East side of existing road Bo Sta. Rita, Batangas City
Minimum Bid Price P 460,700.00

Res'l Lots, Rancho Vista Subd, Brgy. Santiago, Santo Tomas
Lot 29 - L19 Blk1 LA 667 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,820,700.00
Lot 30 - L3 Blk5 LA1,011sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 2,123,100.00
Lot 31 - L16 Blk5 LA 725 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,522,500.00
Lot 32 – L44 Blk5 LA 469 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,055,250.00

Res'l. Lots, Las Villas de Aguila,Brgy. Bagong Sikat, Poblacion, Lemery
Lot 33 – L6 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 34 – L18 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 35 – L21 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 36 – L22 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 37 – L24 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 38 – L28 Blk6 LA 180 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 432,000.00

Lot 39 - Res'l./Comm'l Lot
LA 5,000 sqm
Lot A-4 Tagaytay-Nasugbu road, Brgy. Niyugan, Laurel, Batangas
Minimum Bid Price P 7,000,000.00

CAMARINES SUR

Res'l. Lots, Monte Cielo de Naga Ph2, Brgy. Del Rosario, Naga City
Lot 40 – L31 Blk4 LA 216 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 427,680.00
Lot 41 – L2 Blk1 LA 204 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 459,000.00
Lot 42 – L3 Blk1 LA 398 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 788,040.00
Lot 43 – L4 Blk1 LA 358 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 708,840.00
Lot 44 – L7 Blk1 LA 204 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 403,920.00

Lot 45-Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 211sqm
Lot 745-C SE side of M. Roxas St., Bo. San Pascual, Buhi
Minimum Bid Price P 2,110,000.00

CAVITE

Res'l.Lots, Tagaytay Royale Subd Ph2-A. Brgy. Malabag, Sinalhw & Kaytitinga, Alfonso
Lot 46 – L6 Blk14 LA 264 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 739,200.00
Lot 47 – L7 Blk14 LA 293 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 820,400.00

LAGUNA

Res'l. Lots, Richwood Park Vill., Brgy. San Francisco, San Pablo City
Lot 48 – L42 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 49 – L43 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 50 – L44 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 51 – L46 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 52 – L52 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00

LAGUNA

Res'l. Lots, Richwood Park Vill., Brgy San Francisco, San Pablo City
Lot 53 – L53 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 54 – L54 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 55 – L55 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 56 – L41 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 57 – L59 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 58 – L60 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00

Lot 59 -Agricultural Lot LA 5,652sqm
Lot 15006, Along Brgy. Road of San Nicolas,Brgy.San Nicolas,SanPabloCity
Minimum Bid Price P 5,637,891.00

Lot 60 – Comm'l. Lot LA 4,000sqm
Brgy. San Gabriel, San Pablo City
Minimum Bid Price P 18,451,100.00

Lot 61 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA523sqm C. Brion cor Sgt DeRoma Sts.Brgy III, Poblacion,SanPabloCity
Minimum Bid Price P 2,133,750.00

Lot 62 – Agri. Lot LA19,820sqm
Lot 3 Along Brgy. Road, San Marcos, San Pablo City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,858,125.00

Lot 63-Res'l/ Agri. Lot LA47,096sqm
Lot 14922, 14924, 14921-C, 14921-B, Along Bo. Road, Brgy. San Nicolas & San Crispin, San Pablo City
Minimum Bid Price P 10,361,120.00

Res'l. Lots, Makiling Heights Resort Subd, Brgy. Dampalit, Los Baños
Lot 64 – L30 Blk5 LA 181 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 425,350.00
Lot 65 – L32 Blk5 LA 242 sqm
Mini8um Bid Price P 580,500.00
Lot 66 – L9 Blk6 LA 202 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 474,700.00
Lot 67 – L10 Blk6 LA 189 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 444,150.00
Lot 68 – L63 Blk8 LA 380 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 893,000.00

Res'l. Lots, Laguna Hills, Brgy. Bucal, Calamba
Lot 69 – L50 Blk14 LA 218 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 621,300.00
Lot 70 – L51 Blk14 LA 218 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 621,300.00
Lot 71 – L78 Blk14 LA 452 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,491,600.00
Lot 72 – L79 Blk14 LA 294 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 882,000.00
Lot 73 – L83 Blk14 LA 446 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,338,000.00

Lot 74–Industrial/Res'l. Lot w/Imprvmnt
LA 20,000 sqm
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Minimum Bid Price P 11,131,920.00

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LA 1,249 sqm L2-4 Blk1 Dincor Fishing Cmpd., De Mesa Rd, Brgy. Dalahican, Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,061,650.00

Lot 77 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 253sqm, FA 220sqm
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Minimum Bid Price P 1,822,339.00

Lot 78 – Res'l Lot LA 551 sqm
L32-33 A. BonifacioSt.Poblacion,Pitogo
Minimum Bid Price P 125,188.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

Lot 79 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 3,642sqm, FA 104 sqm
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Minimum Bid Price P 2,079,300.00

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Lot 80 - Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,293 sqm Lot no. 4 Luna Ext., cor. Rizal St. and Roxas Ext., Brgy Balud del Sur, Gubat
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Minimum Bid Price P 8,099,036.00

Lot 82 - Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 2,752 sqm Lot 5-D Luna St., Brgy Una Candol, Gubat
Minimum Bid Price P 8,256,000.00

TAGAYTAY

Res'l. Lots, Crosswinds Subd., Brgy Iruhin
Lot 83 – L9 Blk 1 LA 779 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,089,750.00
Lot 84 - L11 Blk 1 LA 952 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,998,000.00
Lot 85 – L13 Blk 1 LA 838 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,399,500.00

Lot 86 – Res'l/ Comm'l. Lot
LA 20,034 sqm
Lot 2-E, Interior Lot thru perpetual right of way, Brgy. Tolentino
Minimum Bid Price P 27,045,900.00

Lot 87 – Res'l Lot LA 294 sqm
Lot 1 Blk 22 Buenavista Hills Subdivision, Phase I, Brgy. Tolentino
Minimum Bid Price P 846,900.00

Res'l. Lots, Tropical Green Subd., Brgy. Patutong Malaki
Lot 88 – L6 Blk 5 LA 246 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 934,800.00
Lot 89 – L5 Blk 8-A LA 254 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 965,200.00
Lot 90 – L7 Blk 9 LA 252 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 957,600.00
Lot 91 – L9 Blk 9 LA 252 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 957,600.00
Lot 92 – L13 Blk 9 LA 270 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,026,000.00

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Lot 93 –Res'l. Condo FA 186 sqm
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Minimum Bid Price P 3,903,270.00

Lot 94 – Res'l. Lot LA 356 sqm
Lot12 Blk14 Cadena de Amor St,United Parañaque 4, San Dionisio
Minimum Bid Price P 1,330,000.00

Lot 95 –Res'l. Condo. FA 136 sqm
Unit301 Makati South Hills Arcade.East ServiceRd Brgy Balagbag (near airport)
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Lot 96 -Res'l. Twnhse LA118.39sqm
Unit4-A Alpha Victoria Homes 14th St. cor Victoria Ave, Brgy. Damayan Lagi. New Manila (near St. Luke's Hosp.)
Minimum Bid Price P 7,224,000.00

Lot 97 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 77 sqm, FA 97.50 sqm
Rd Lot 649-C-4-A-2 Towerville Homes Brgy. Culiat (near UP)
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(PDI-May 15,22 & 29, 2005)

NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE LOSS OF PETRON CORP STOCK CERTIFICATE OF DIVINA GRACIA PEREGRINO WITH STOCK NO. 00524057 AND 8,850 SHARES. SHOULD NO ONE CONTEST ON OR BEFORE 05/20/05 NEW CERTIFCATE WILL BE ISSUED.
(PDI-MAY 15, 22 & 29, 2005)

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Republic of the Philippines
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Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project : *Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)*
Loan No. *Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI*
Description of Works : **Design, site development and construction of socialized housing units in Abelia -Joriz and San Miguel, Mandaluyong City**

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contracts for San Miguel URA and Abella-Joriz URA in Mandaluyong City.
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following contract packages:

Contract Package	Design, Site Development and Construction of 54 Socialized Housing Units in Abella-Joriz URA	Design, Site Development and Construction of 96 Socialized Housing Units in San Miguel URA
Contract No.	URA-MAN-01	URA-MAN-02
Location	Abella Compound, Brgy. Mabini J.P. Rizal, Mandaluyong City	San Miguel Street, Brgy. Plainview, Mandaluyong City
Contract Duration	240 Calendar Days	300 Calendar Days
Project Description	Design, site development and construction of 54 socialized housing units, which include the following items of work: architectural works, structural works, electrical works, carpentry works, painting works, sanitary/plumbing works, water supply, site work, site improvement and drainage work, among others.	Design, site development and construction of 96 socialized housing units, which include the following items of work: architectural works, structural works, electrical works, carpentry works, painting works, sanitary/plumbing works, water supply, site work, site improvement and drainage work, among others.

3. Proposals will be accepted from licensed private developers, GOP enterprises the majority of which is publicly-owned including non-government organizations (NGOs) with demonstrated track record in the development of sustainable communities including social preparation, design and construction of socialized/low-cost housing units employing community-participation and post-relocation capability-building activities. Licensed private developers and NGOs could submit proposals either as individual bidders, individual bidders with subcontractors or as joint ventures. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity		Date	Venue
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 10,500.00		From June 13 to 17 2005	PRRC, 2F MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents		From June 13 to 17 2005	
Site Inspection	Abella-Joriz URA	June 30, 2005/9:00 a.m.	Abella Compound, Mandaluyong City
	San Miguel URA	June 30, 2005/1:00 p.m.	San Miguel St. Brgy. Plainview, Mandaluyong City
Pre-Bid Conference	Abella-Joriz URA	July 01, 2005/10:00 a.m.	Mandaluyong LGU City Engineers Office, Maysilo Circle, Mandaluyong City
	San Miguel URA		
Deadline for submission of Bids	Abella-Joriz URA	July 29, 2005/10:00 a.m.	
	San Miguel URA	Aug. 01, 2005 / 10:00 a.m.	
Opening of Bids	Abella-Joriz URA	July 29, 2005 / 10:30 a.m.	
	San Miguel URA	Aug. 01, 2005 / 10:30 a.m.	

4. The LGU of Mandaluyong shall be the implementing agency of the Project.
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check/Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the *"Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers"* pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 and ADB Guidelines for the Procurement of Civil Works as standardized under the harmonized ADB-GOP Procurement of Works bid documents.
6. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) BINGLE H. B. GUTIERREZ
Executive Director

(Sgd.) NEPTALI M. GONZALES II
Mayor, Mandaluyong City

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Sunday BIZ

CHINING Sagarbarria-Bustamante (extreme left) and her loyal staff continue her mother's passion for baking.

Dame's recipes gave ...

From page B1

lived for many years, was recalled to Dumaguete, the capital of Negros Oriental, to manage the business.

"The choices were that we either hire someone to run the business or that I relocate to Dumaguete. It wasn't a difficult choice," says Chining, 42, who holds a degree in English and Public Relations from St. Paul University in Manila.

Aside from its loyal work force, Sans Rival is also proud of its loyal clientele. "Our clientele has been very supportive. When we were expanding the store, we thought the customers would stop coming because of the dust and noise, but they kept coming back," Chining says.

Now, with the doubled store space, 70 percent of their clients stay and enjoy their snacks inside the shop.

One of the family members also put up the House of Sylvanas in Metro Manila in the early 1970s and has since brought the business to Los Angeles, USA, offering basically the same line of pastries that made Sans Rival a byword among pastry lovers in Dumaguete.

Now, Chining plans to expand their menu further by serving lunch. "For our lunch menu, I will again be serving the recipes of my mother."

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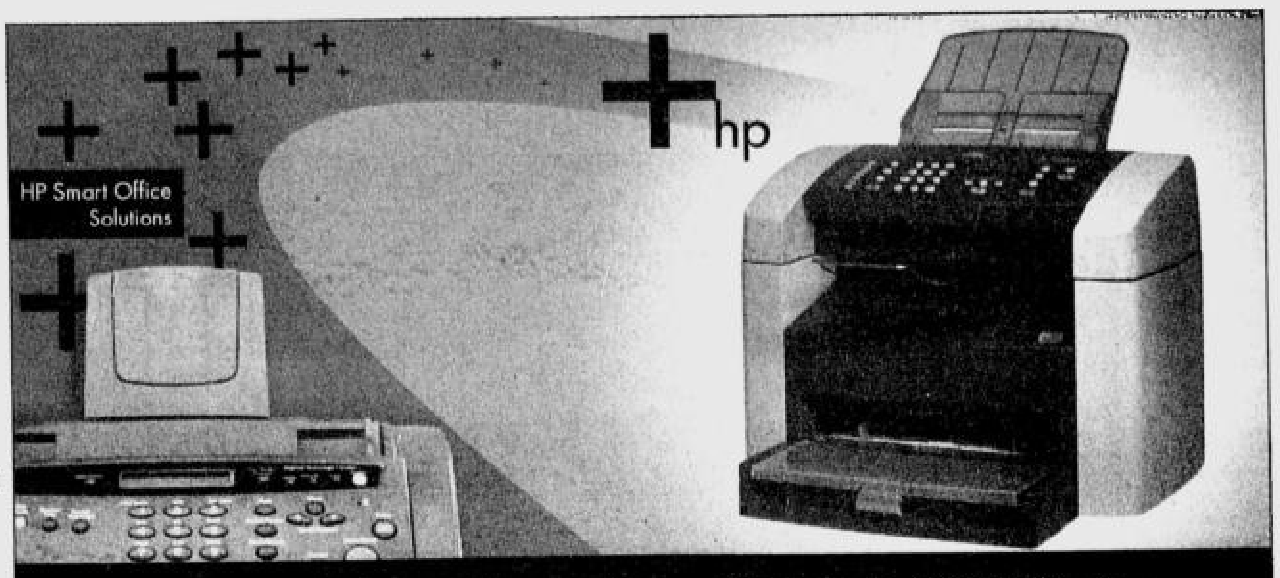

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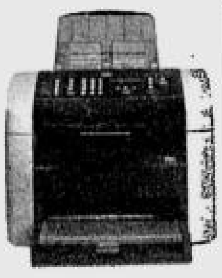

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SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2005 C1

Sunday LIFESTYLE

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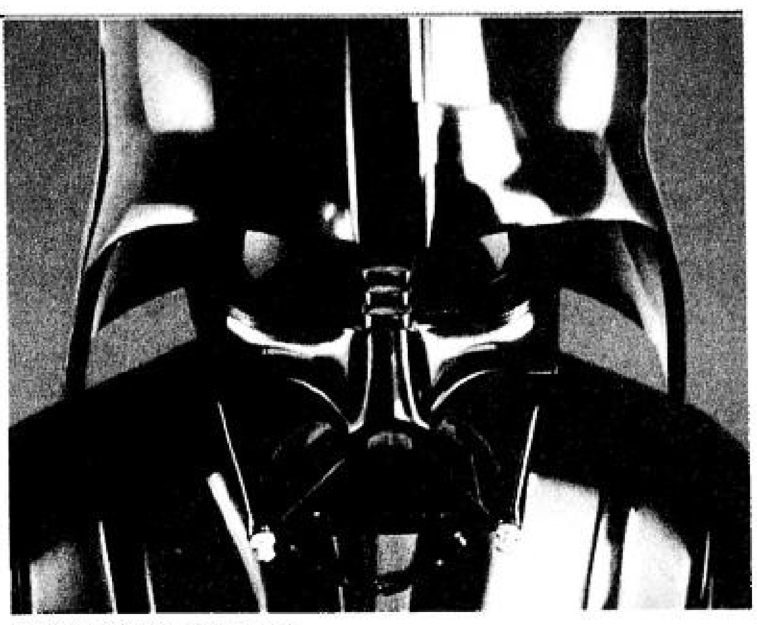
Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

- *Home*
- *Travel*
- *Weddings*
- *Surprises*

HAYDEN Christensen plays Anakin Skywalker, later to become Darth Vader.

Why the force will always be with us

STORY ON PAGE C2

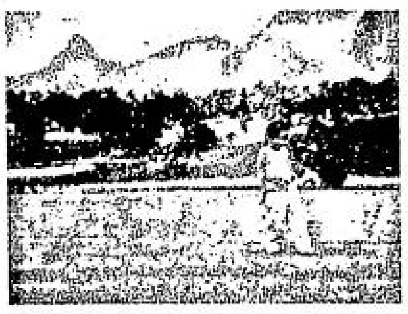


THE MAN in black is back!

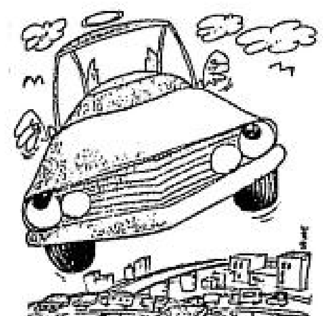
IN THIS ISSUE

SPEED dating in Manila /E1

INSTANT attraction leads to 'I Do's' /F1



WORLD-CLASS golf range, first-rate home /G1



THE SAGA of Gilda Cordero-Fernando's family car /H1

DIPLOMATIC encounters /I1

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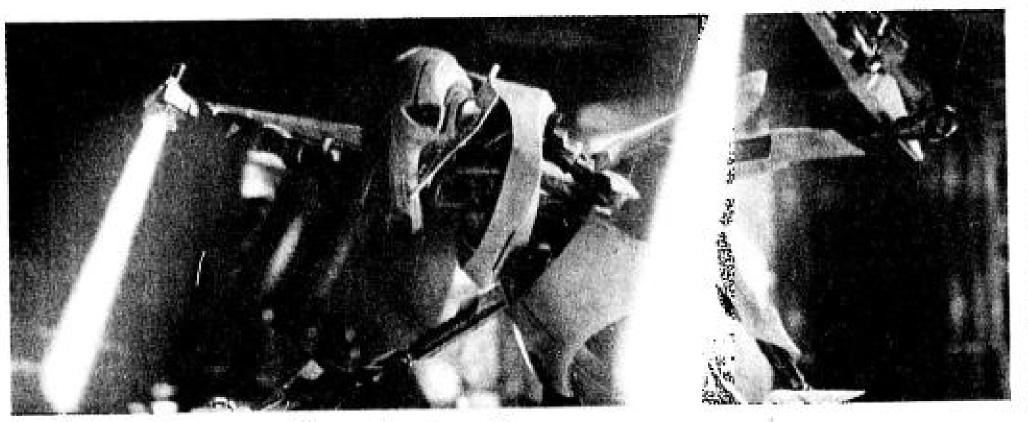
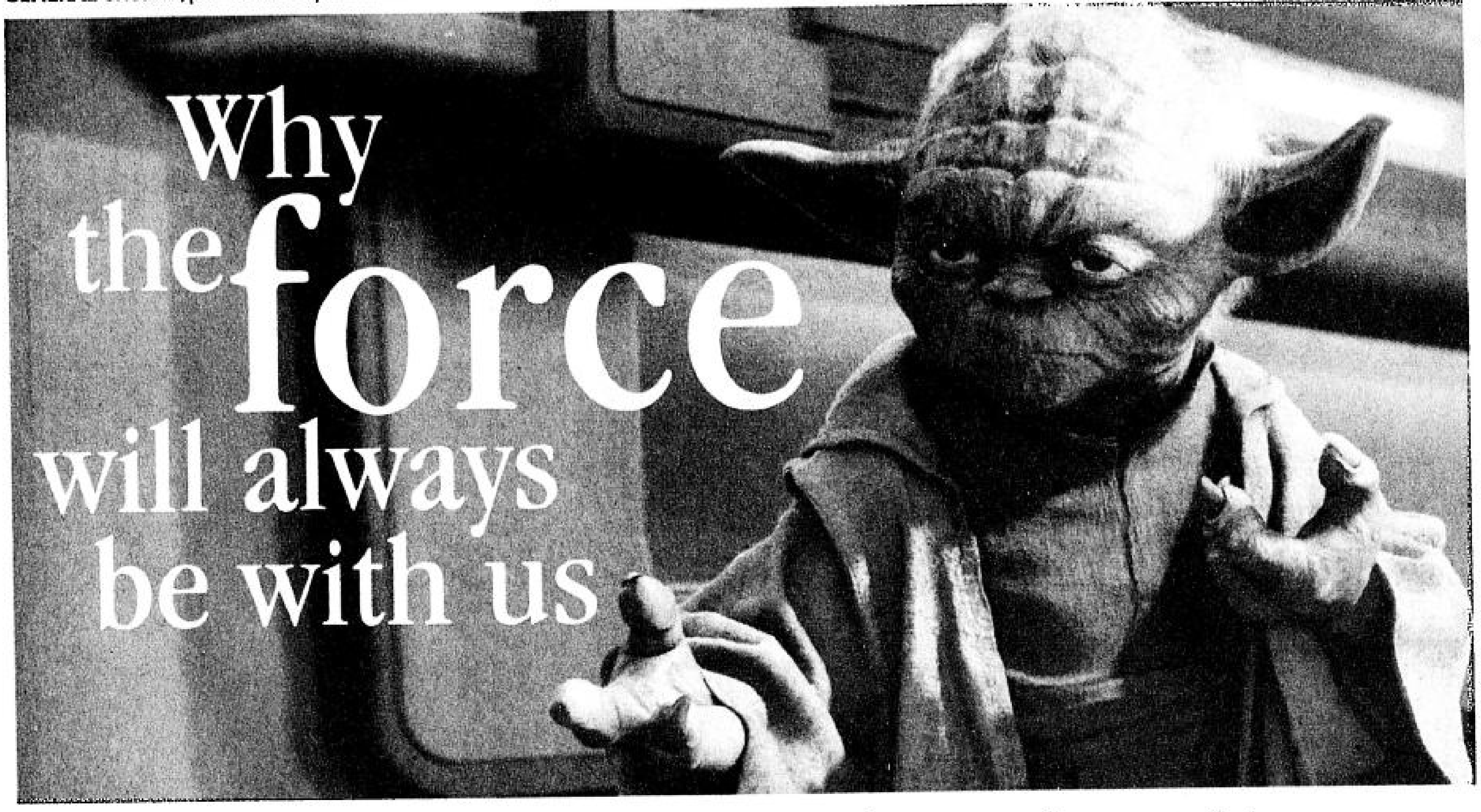


GENERAL Grievous, part alien and part machine

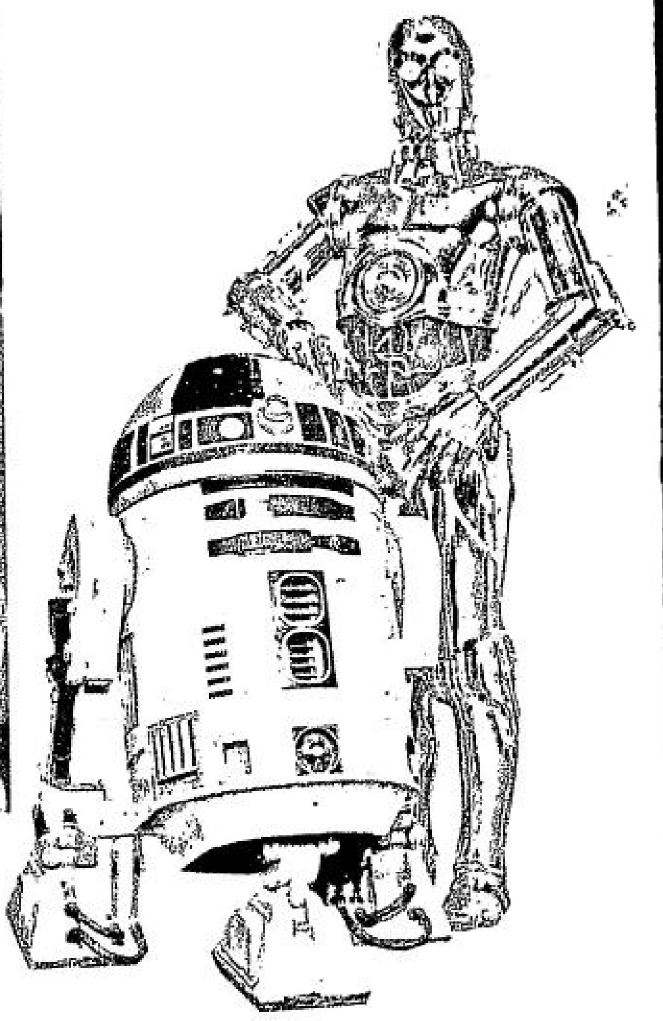
SENATOR Bail Organa (Jimmy Smits) speeds along the sky lanes of Coruscant.

Why the force will always be with us



JEDI Master Yoda

Episode III of the 'Star Wars' prequel is packing it in theaters and seems to have redeemed the series after two false starts. Now everyone is starry, starry again, looking fondly at 'a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away . . .' The Sunday Lifestyle staff gives 10 reasons for the intergalactic, intergenerational hangover



THE FAITHFUL droids R2-D2 and C-3PO

1 EVER since the saga began almost three decades ago, not a few women (and men) have been intrigued with how Darth Vader looked before he fell to the Dark Side. It certainly was a relief to know he was dashing once, straight, and in no way related to Jabba the Hut.

2 EPISODE III finally puts to rest earlier doubts fans had about C-3PO's sexual orientation. Since Padmé Amidala obviously couldn't change hairstyles all by herself (from cinnamon rolls one minute to long curls the next), it doesn't take a Yoda to figure out who helped her do the 'do.

3 EPISODE III also reminds us not to be too dependent on science. So much for ultrasound and all those modern gadgets and scientific advances. Up to the last minute, Padmé Amidala didn't know she had twins!

4 THE SCRIPTS of all six movies may not exactly be a gold mine of unforgettable and classic one liners, but at least today's verbally challenged youth can resort to Yoda-speak to mask their deficiencies. Listen to Yoda we must to learn like sages to speak. Get it?

5 WHAT all three prequels show is that even a stellar cast of critically acclaimed actors can't pull off terrible, sappy love lines. George Lucas, stick to CGI!

6 THE DARK Side is actually more interesting and exciting. In the last installment, the pace only picks up when Anakin Skywalker begins to metamorphose into Darth Vader.

7 THE SAGA tells us lesser mortals that the cinnamon-roll 'do only works on fictitious royals like Princess Leia and her mother, Queen Amidala. Too much use of it can result in a stint at rehab. Look at Carrie Fisher.

8 IT'S hilarious to see a political statement masquerade as a seemingly innocuous movie for kids and the kids at heart. Anakin/Darth Vader in "Sith": "If you're not with me, you are my enemy." Hello, Dubya, is that you?

9 FROM the way the latest installment is making a killing at the local box office, the movie debunks the age-old notion that Filipinos are suckers for a happy ending. The queen is dead and his king is now a future mass murderer in a glossy helmet and patent leather cape!

10 WHILE Jar Jar Binks vividly demonstrates what a major irritant onscreen can look and sound like, "Star Wars" has enriched language with such inventions as "light saber" and expanded the visual limits of cinema with unsurpassable marvels such as the underwater city of Coruscant. May the Force live forever!

SCENES from "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith"

CHARGE! A large band of Wookiee warriors gets ready to do battle.

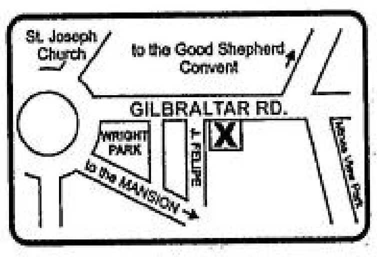
FIRESHIPS do their best to douse the flames of the Trade Federation ship that has crash-landed on Coruscant.

WITH "Episode III," the saga comes to a smashing, satisfying close.

CHANCELLOR Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid), Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) and Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) are prisoners aboard a Trade Federation ship.

PADME Amidala (Natalie Portman) shares a tender moment with Anakin.

TION Medon (Bruce Spence), prime minister of Utapau



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1. To avail of the promo, each customer has to purchase any of the following:
   a. Two (2) Genuine Canon Individual Ink cartons with Promo Sticker
   b. Two (2) packs of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
   c. One (1) Genuine Canon Ink Twin Pack with Promo Sticker
   d. One (1) Genuine Canon Individual Ink carton with Promo Sticker and one (1) pack of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
2. Only purchases from May 16 to July 30, 2005 will be covered by this promo.
3. Redemption period is from May 16, 2005 until September 30, 2005.
4. To redeem a FREE Deluxe SM Movie Card, present any of the following with customer's name, address and contact number written inside the carton at any SM Cinema ticket booth within the redemption period from May 16 to September 30, 2005:
   a. Two (2) Genuine Canon Individual Ink cartons with Promo Sticker
   b. Two (2) packs of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
   c. One (1) Genuine Canon Ink Twin Pack with Promo Sticker
   d. One (1) Genuine Canon Individual Ink carton with Promo Sticker and One (1) pack of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
5. Customers can claim their free movie card in the following SM Cinema ticket booths: SM North Edsa, SM Megamall, SM Centerpoint, SM Manila, SM Southmall, SM Bacoor, SM Fairview, SM Tutuban, SM Sucat, SM Cebu, SM Iloilo, SM Davao, SM Pampanga, SM Cagayan de Oro, SM Bicutan, SM Lucena, SM Baguio, SM Marilao, SM Dasmarinas, SM Batangas
6. SM Movie Cards are valid for one year after date of redemption.
7. Deluxe Movie Cards are good for single admission only and are not allowed on Premiere Showings and Advanced Screenings.
8. To use an SM Deluxe Movie Card, simply present it at any SM Cinema ticketing booth to swap for a ticket for any movie of choice.
9. Deluxe Movie Cards may be upgraded to a Premiere Movie Card with a minimal fee paid through the ticketing booth.

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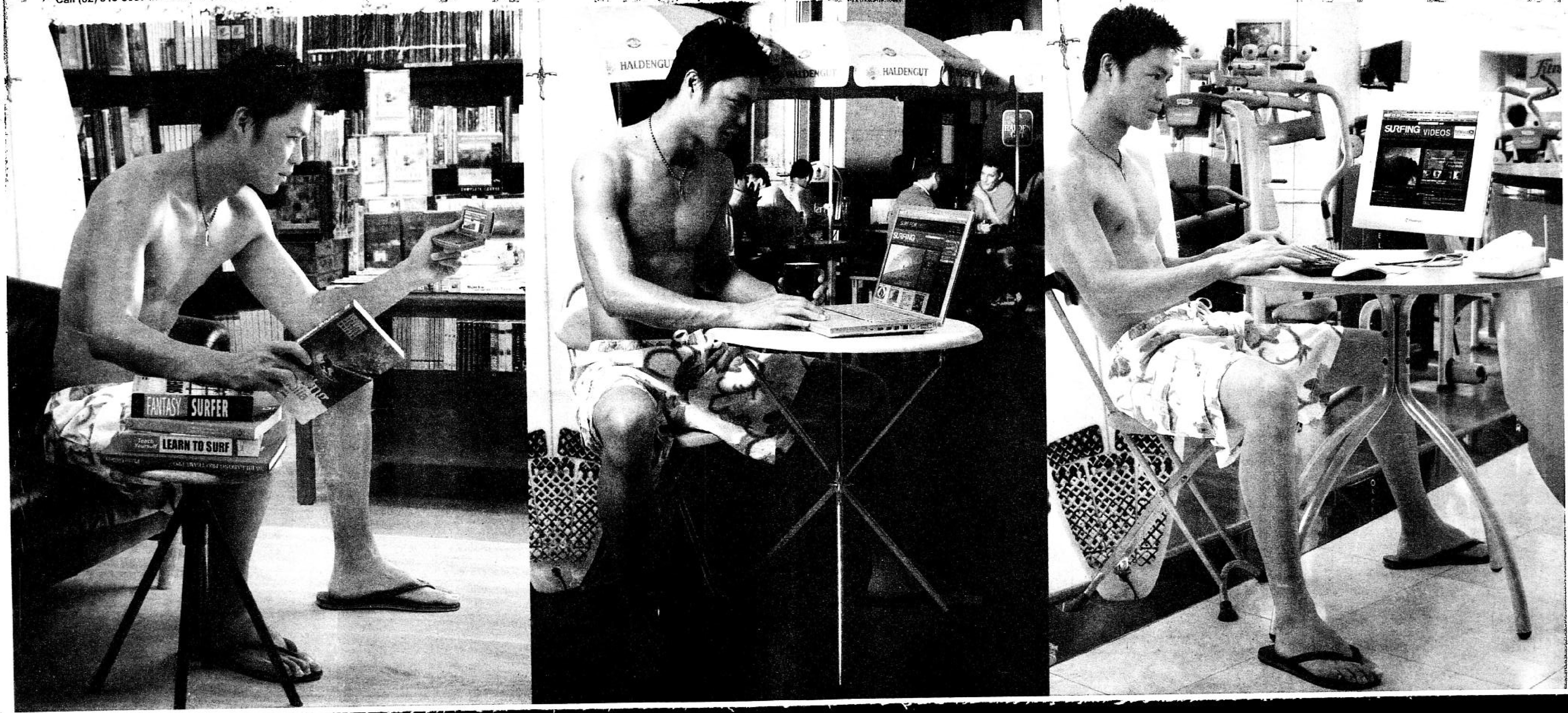

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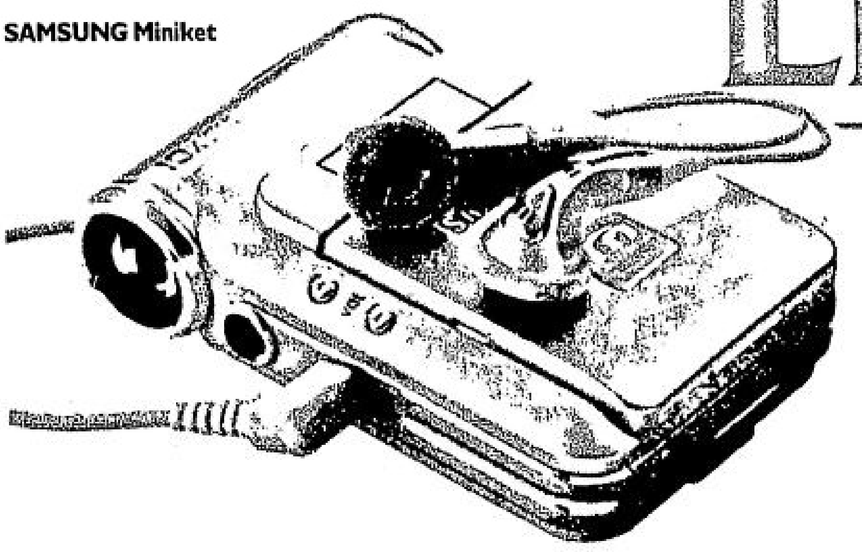
SAMSUNG Miniket



The Swiss knife of electronic gadgets

This pocket director is a video clip-recording, still photos-taking, mp3-playing, voice-recording, data-storing and web cam-connecting mean machine

SAMSUNG president Hyuck Jae Shim (center) with Angie Limbaco and product manager Eric de Leon

PHOTO BY RUDY ESPERAS

By Ruth L. Navarra

TO SURVIVE and keep up in the urban jungle, one must always have the right equipment. And Samsung's newly launched Miniket appears to be the closest thing to a Swiss knife.

Miniket claims to be the first of its kind in the market, and with good reason. This pocket director is a video clip-recording, still photos-taking, mp3-playing, voice-recording, data-storing and web cam-connecting lean, mean, small machine.

Mark Meily, director of "La Visa Loca" and "Crying Ladies," was recently given a week to play with it and familiarize himself with the functions.

"It helped me to be more creative and experiment on so many things because of its portability. I can put it in any angle, in any position I want. I can pre-visualize the shot I want," he says.

Meily admits that the special effects of Miniket can also be found in other cameras, but with a major difference: It's not as light. At 150 g, the phone's weight is similar to that of a cigarette pack. Its length and height is almost the same as a credit card.

It has 1 GB built-in shared memory that can store up to one hour of video or 18 hours of voice recording, which can still be extended with a memory stick.

The video camera records in MPEG4 picture performance. In layman's terms, it means you can share audio and video over a wide range of bandwidths including cell phone and the Internet, on an almost professional-quality level.

Amazing sound

Besides the camera, music video director RA Rivera also enjoys the MP3 feature of the product. "I have the whole track of my band Pedicab in my pocket," he says in Filipino. "The sound grabbing capability of Miniket is clear and amazing."

By including data storage among its features, this pocket director has addressed digital cam users' tendency to go against the cardinal rule of storing data (never treat your memory stick like a thumb drive or a flash card). Now, you can store text documents, spreadsheets, PowerPoint presentations, etc. to your heart's content without worrying about damaging the memory stick.

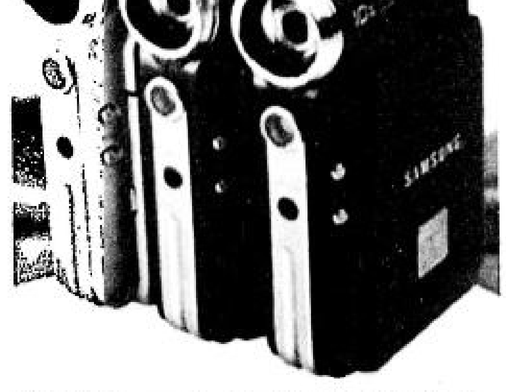
Miniket is a bit pricey, but thinking about all the gizmos that it can replace makes it worth it. Imagine packing your next vacation without the hassle of choosing between the still and the video camera. You don't have to squeeze in your little MP3 player into your suitcase, either.

You can save for posterity all conversations you have with your loved one with the voice recorder (you'll never know when reminding them of promises made during drunken moments becomes handy). And if someone special misses you back home, you can chat online and use it as a webcam.

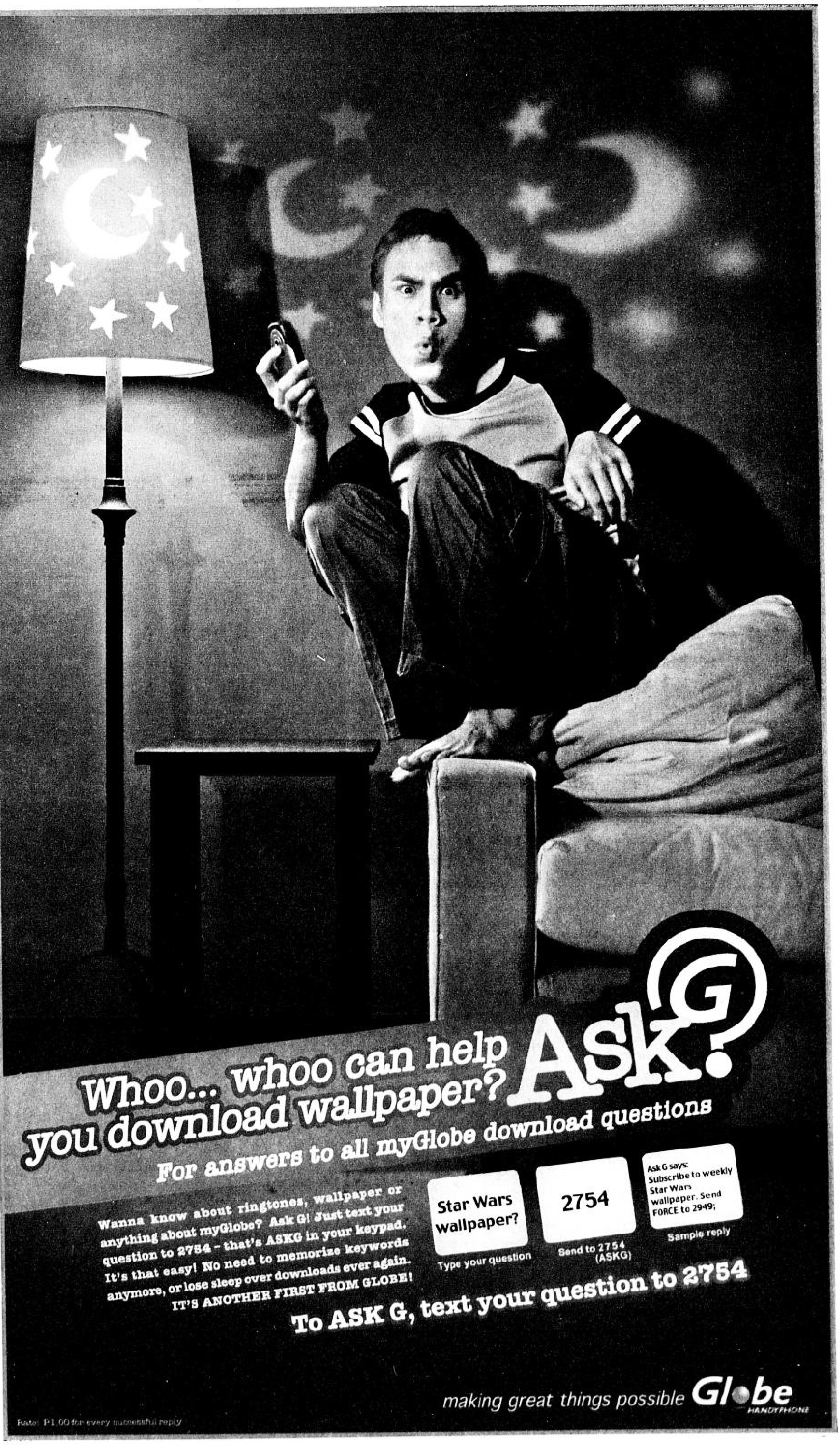
"It comes in three colors—silver, dark blue and red. Then there's the sport version that comes in black and blue and it's rubberized," says product manager Eric de Leon. "This is only the first generation [of Miniket]. We're coming out with more products for the category."

Samsung president and CEO Hyuck Jae Shim expects the product to help boost the brand's overall sales. "I want Miniket to do monumental changes [in the market], to go one level up," he says.

Looks like it's set to do just that.



MINIKET comes in silver, red and dark blue.



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New-generation toys

FOR YOUNG minds, the VTech-V. Smile TV learning system

TOY KINGDOM, the amazing toy superstore, has new-generation gadgets for kids.

Learning becomes one with interactive toys like the V-Tech V Smile Learning System. Kids can experience creative gaming and learning while playing with the colorful graphics. There's also plenty to learn and discover in the Hundred Acre Wood in the land of fairytales.

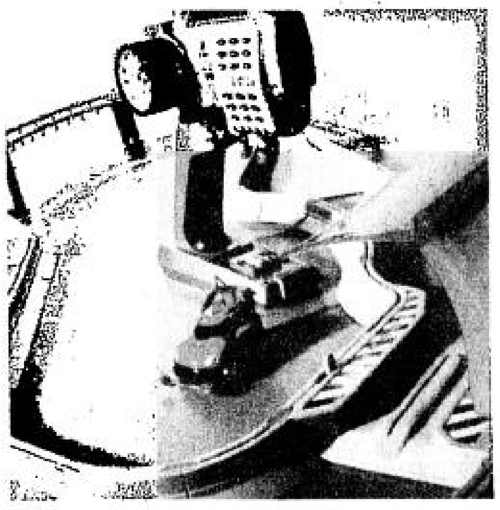
Get hooked on "SpongeBob SquarePants," one of the kids' hottest character friends. Just plug this game set directly into your TV and play exciting games like Bubble Pop, Invasion of the Hooks, Sandy's Surf Adventure, Patrick and the Maze, and The Super Chum Bucket.

Dolls are still tops on little girls' lists. Barbie has her new Fashion Fever set, which features the Spring 2005 collection—clothes, hats, scarves, necklaces, sunglasses and shoes.

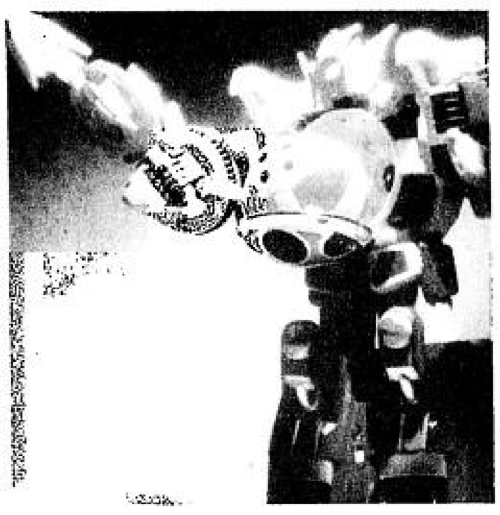
Bratz dolls are also tops on the list, this time dressed as stylish pirates. Always on the lookout for crazy and funky fashion ideas, they've taken vintage vagabond fashions, mix these with an updated sense of style and come up with a new look to treasure.

The Disney Princess Magical Mirror gives girls not only a reflection of their princesshood, but utters 20 magical phrases to make any girl's day.

Kids will love the latest animé collectibles from "Shaman King," an adventure series that takes place in a world where everything is possible. The characters include Yoh Asakura, the shaman-boy; Amiradu, a samurai warrior spirit; and Bason the villain.



COLLECT, connect and create your racing dream with the X-trek macro racing system.



STORM Power Ranger is ready to save the world one more time.

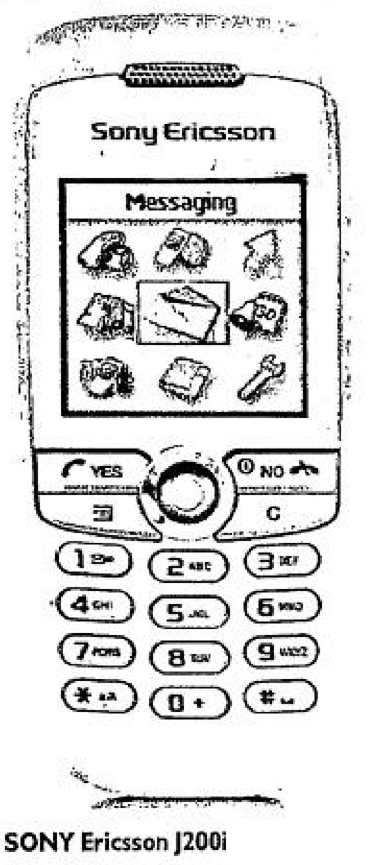
Car model collectors, on the other hand, will find the 2005 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution VIII die cast model car a great find. It has full engine and interior details and doors that open just like in a real car.

Power Rangers enthusiasts, meanwhile, would want to add the Power Rangers Ninja Storm to their collection. It has a power sphere in its chest that can reveal secret weapons like Hawk Zoid, Dolphin Zoid and Lion Zoid.

Kids can race like big boys with the Dub City R/C Roller GMC Yukon Denali. Definitely the hottest and most exciting street machine around, this has buffed-up body styling, huge chrome wheels and a high-impact paint job for a great race.

Kids will also love the Silverlit/R X-treck macro racing system, which has micro radio controls and four mini cars to collect from.

These cool toys are available at Toy Kingdom at SM Megamall, SM City Fairvew and SM Southmall. These are also available in its provincial branches at SM City Pampanga, SM City Lucena, SM City Marilao, SM City Bacoor, SM City Baguio and SM City Batangas in Luzon; and SM Vizmin malls in Cebu, Iloilo and Davao.



SONY Ericsson J200i

Cell phone and watch gift set now available

THE NEW Sony Ericsson J200i, partnered with the Technomarine Tmaxs watch, is now available as a power and precision gift set at 25-percent off in selected Technomarine and Semicon branches in Metro Manila. The gift sets allow customers to purchase a stylish cell phone and watch combos at promotional prices. The new J200i is a slim mobile phone for easy talking and messaging that goes with the stylish simplicity of the TechnoMarine Tmaxs. The triple band J200i offers themes, wallpapers, calendar, alarm clock and a picture phonebook that can store up to 200 entries. It has a 40-tone polyphonic ringer, with an additional speaker for loud and clear ring tones, even on the street. The TechnoMarine Tmaxs is a sporty classic with white Arabic numerals and a choice of different-colored faces and matching gel straps. The watch is water resistant up to 200 meters. The gift sets are available at Semicon branches in SM Megamall, SM North Edsa, SM Southmall, The Podium, Power Plant Mall, Cyberone and in the Semicon Showroom, Semicon Centre Bldg.; TechnoMarine in Greenbelt and SM Megamall, and Rafael Jewellery Store in Shangri-La Plaza Mall. Call 7573975 or 6814965.

PAUL Andre Salas posing with his sword

GABRIEL Roxas showing some of his moves

ELLA Guevarra hitting the drums

Star-studded launch of Disney partnership

TIMEZONE, the country's premier family entertainment center, launched its tie-up with Disney recently in a star-studded day of fun and games at Glorietta 4.

The day featured Starstruck Kids—Gabriel Roxas, Renz Juan, Ella Guevarra, Shammel Leask and Paul Andre Salas, together with teen star John Prats.

Guests participated in the Timezone-Disney Game Challenge, with various Disney items as prizes. Kids played hoops at the Slam 'n Jam Jr.; father-and-son teams battled it out at Elfin Cupid; while mother-and daughter teams competed in the Pro-striker.

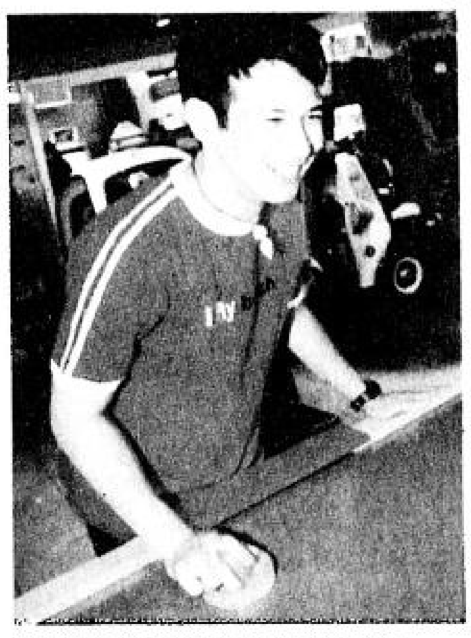
Orphans from the House of Refuge Foundation were invited to the event.

Other guests were RJ Ledesma and Starstruck teen Alvin Aragon.

Timezone general manager Raffy Prats; marketing manager Mark Sablan; operations manager Ronald Lucas; and FCI Manila's Claire Calleja were also there.

The magical world of Disney is experienced daily at Timezone centers at Glorietta 4, Glorietta 2, Greenbelt 3 and Greenbelt 1; 3/L Alabang Town Center; and Cinema Lobby, Market! Market!; Ayala Center Cebu; Greenhills Shopping Center; Metropoint Mall; Starmallm Mandaluyong; SM Megamall; Pavilion Mall, Biñan, Laguna; NCCC Mall, Davao; and Robinsons Lipa.

Opening soon are Timezone Araneta Gateway, Cubao; Greenhills Promenade, Marquinton Mall, Marikina; CCC Downtown, Davao; and NCCC Tagum, Davao.



JOHN Prats having fun shooting and blocking

RAFFY Prats (general manager) with the kids: Renz Juan, Roxas, Guevarra, Shamel Leask and Salas

How to tell if your child has special needs

IN THE CURRENT issue of Baby Magazine, educator Jenny V. Tapales writes about the warning signs that could indicate your child has special requirements, and for which early intervention is crucial for the child to achieve normal growth and development.

Yaya expert Dr. Simpao Pangilinan-Simpao also features a test to determine how caring your *yaya* is to your baby. Dr. Simpao first lays the ground rule, which is to teach them first before expecting them to know what to do.

Known Ob-gyne Rebecca Singson, meanwhile, gives pregnant ladies guidelines on the sports they can engage in while expecting. It is important to "know what your limits are in terms of activity which can surely keep injury away from you and your baby," she says.

The current issue carries recipes from some of Manila's favorite restaurants and an article on how massage can help ease away some illnesses for the whole family.

Baby Magazine, available in all SM Baby Sections, National Bookstore, Magnet, specialty baby shops and popular newsstands, also provides parents a complete list of preschools in Metro Manila to choose from for their children.

Call 7283655-56.

Shopper gets key to P1 million

ROBINSONS Supermarket and Supercenter announced recently the big winner of their Key to a Million raffle promo.

Minda Roque, a shopper at Robinsons Supermarket-Congressional branch, won cash, gift certificates and Nestlè merchandise worth P1 million.

The Key To A Million promo was conducted by Robinsons Supermarket and Big R Supercenter to welcome the year 2005.

Promo partners were Nestlé, Cadbury, Unilever and Colgate-Palmolive Philippines.

Roque was one of 30 participants who joined the treasure hunt. The others received P20,000 worth of cash and prizes.

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New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon is the first energy drink in the market to combine superb taste with great energy. The first sip of this energy drink is a delightful burst of lemony and lime flavors that will tickle your taste buds and quench your parched throat. Beyond the sparkling citron flavor, the **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon** promises to help improve physical performance and mental alertness. Whether you are a young professional seeking to make an impact on the corporate world, an athlete pushing your body to the limit, or a student pulling an all-nighter to finish a term-paper, **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon** is a delicious way to enhance your stamina, vitality, and endurance. Indeed, **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon** is not just your reliable energy booster, it's a pleasurable treat for your palate.

At the end of a long and productive day, even active people are down with exhaustion, debilitated by the scorching summer heat. Nothing beats your exhaustion and thirst like chilled **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon**. On these days, the benefits of the **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon** are especially appreciated. With active ingredients of royal jelly, ginseng, iron and multivitamins, a can of **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon** packs a mean wallop. Royal jelly and ginseng are known natural energy sources that contain proteins, lipids, glucides, vitamins, hormones, enzymes, mineral substances and other elements vital to the human body. Meanwhile, iron is an essential mineral that aids in the oxygen transport and metabolism of the body. These ingredients are surefire ways to keep you sharp and alert, ready for whatever comes your way.

Sure, your life can unfold in neck-breaking velocity but with the **New I-ON Energy Drink from Revicon** in Sparkling Citron, you will always have the power to make your life fun, fun, fun!

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Celebs get first shot at new camera

FOUR celebrities became the first owners of the new Sony Cyber-shot T7 digital camera.

The 5.1 megapixel Cyber-shot T7 is the slimmest digital camera at only 9.8 millimeters.

The new owners of the Sony camera are Jenni Epperson, stylist Rosario Herrera, MTV VJ Colby Miller and model Rissa Mananquil-Samson.

Sleek, chic and fashionable, the T7 boasts of Carl Zeiss Vario Tessar lenses.

Herrera says the Sony T7 is small enough to put in her pocket. It has impressed her friends that some of them are waiting for it to be available in the market so they can get their own.

Miller says the T7 is so easy to use, very user-friendly. Aside from its state-of-the-art quality, it is really functional, and very smooth and very chic. He calls it the first sexy camera on the market.

Mananquil says the Sony Cyber-shot T7 is an eye-catcher. Though exceptionally thin, it boasts of a 5.1 megapixel resolution. It is also easy to use. By simply sliding the front lens cover, the camera is ready to take pictures. Calling it a digital gem, she says she also likes the T7's large LCD monitor.

Jenni describes the T7 as fun, functional and feminine. It is also really sleek. With the widest screen in the market right now, the large LCD monitor makes taking photos so easy.

Aside from taking still photos, the T7 can record high-resolution video in MPEG file. Recording time depends on the capacity of the memory media card being used.

The Sony Cyber-shot T7 can complement any ensemble no matter the occasion. It can even fit in the tiniest evening bag or slipped in the pocket.

The new T7 is available at authorized Sony dealers nationwide.

Carl Zeiss
Vario-Tessar
3,5-4,4 / 6,33-19,0
Cyber-shot

SONY Cyber-shot T7

HANDYMAN supporters Rufino Ng (APT Home Products) and Wilbert Tiu (Prominence Marketing)

Store chains open first branches in Makati

THE ROBINSONS Department Store (RDS) and Handyman Do It Best Home Center opened recently at the third and fourth floors, respectively, of Walter Mart Mall corner Pasong Tamo and Pasay Road, Makati City.

Cutting the ceremonial ribbon were RDS general manager Graham Coates; Mohammad Aslam, director of Trendsetter; Dioceldo Sy, chief executive officer of Ever Bilena; and Liza Yao, vice president for finance and merchandising, Richwell Trading.

Guests included Ms. Philippines Water 2004 Jasmin Chua, Ms. Philippines Air 2004 Nadia Camolli and Ms. Philippines Earth 2004 Tamera Marie Szijarto.

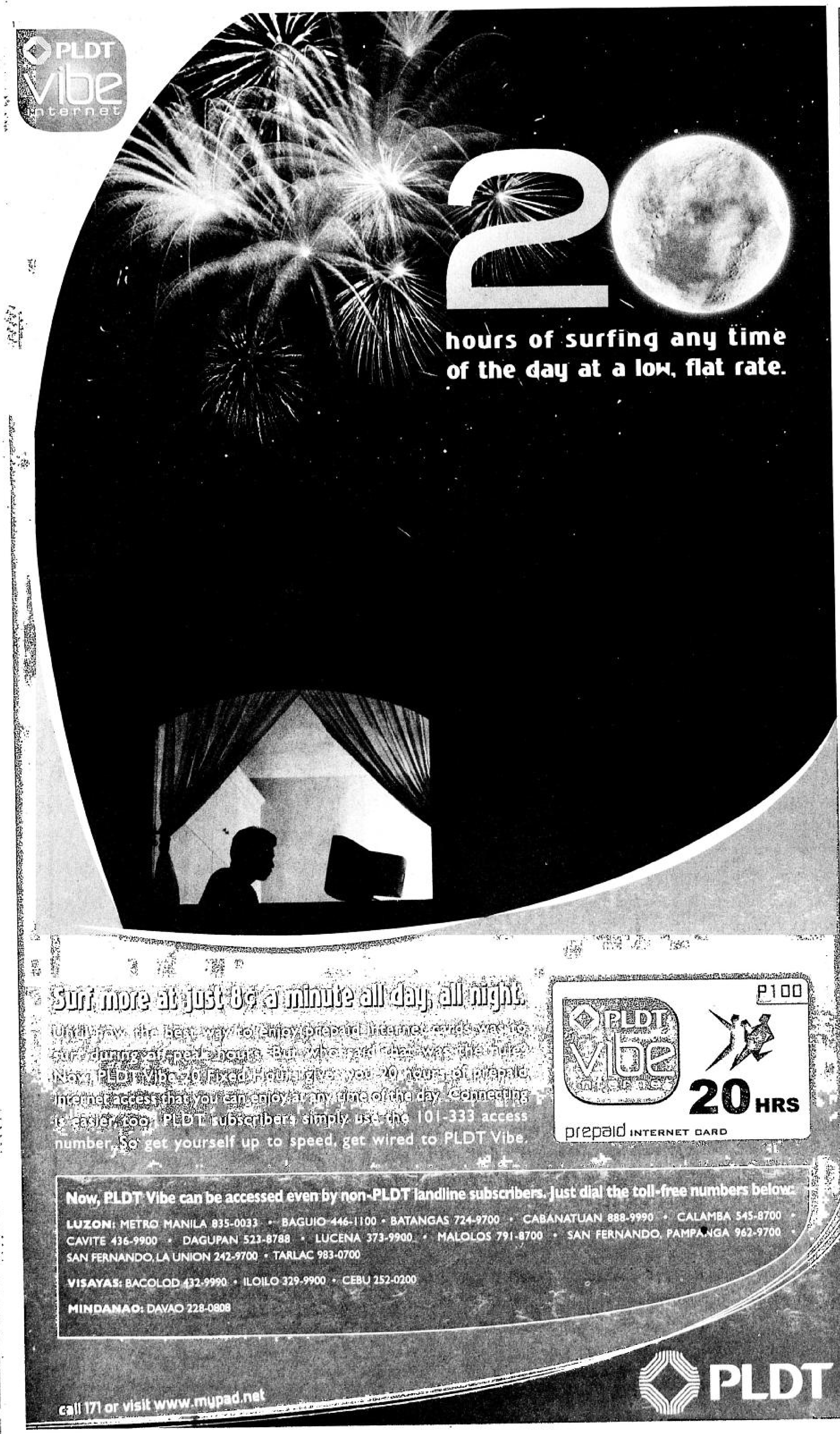
Top model and media personality Rissa Samson hosted the event.

Also at the event were Wilson Lim, president of Willimson Inc.; Silliman Sy, chief operating officer, Ever Bilena; Carter and Cris Go of Crissa; Unilever's Dimple Hugo; Prominence Marketing's Wilbert Tiu; Rufino Ng and Emelie Florendo of APT Home Products; Victor Aquilino of Sicaba Import & Export; Marcelo Ong of Marcat Marketing; Red Earth Trading's Leticia Dy; Norman Ku Dy and Mike Pullon of NKD International; Chito Pagdanganan of General Electric Lighting Phil., and Albert Go of Bionic Auto Seat Cover, among others.

The new stores are open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. daily.

HANDYMAN president Willy Co and Stanley Co

WILSON Lim, president of Willmson Inc., and Dioceldo Sy, CEO of Ever Bilena



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2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Sure and quick date with Mr. Right, more or less

HAVE fun meeting new people...

Loveless again? Speed Dating gets you the right match

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Joseph Agcaoili

PUT your best foot forward. Be quick but appear calm and confident. After all, there's only three minutes to make a knockout first impression on that dreamboat.

That's right. Wear that badge, grab that scorecard, whip out that pen and actually get to rate your "date." No risk offending him/her—s/he's got a handy scorecard as well. In times where everything is fast and, well, easy, Speed Dating is a fun alternative to the singles bar scene.

Originally created by an international Jewish educational network to keep single Jews from marrying outside their religious faction, Speed Dating has since been adopted by non-Jews and has gained popularity all over the world as one of the best ways to meet people. Now in the Philippines, Speed Dating (e-mail six_degrees@yahoo.com, tel. 0922-4973261) has been organized by the Six Degrees firm.

Venues are private function rooms. Only participants are allowed entry to the event. Upon arrival at the reception, facilitators will equip each participant with a badge with their names and assigned numbers on it, plus a pen and a scorecard. In the scorecards are numbers, say 1-25, each with "yes" and "no" boxes.

Write down the name of that "date" on the space provided, making sure it matches the number on his/her badge. If in three minutes you feel s/he merits a second date, tick the "yes" box. If s/he happens to tick on the "yes" box on you as well, then voila, you have got yourself a match.

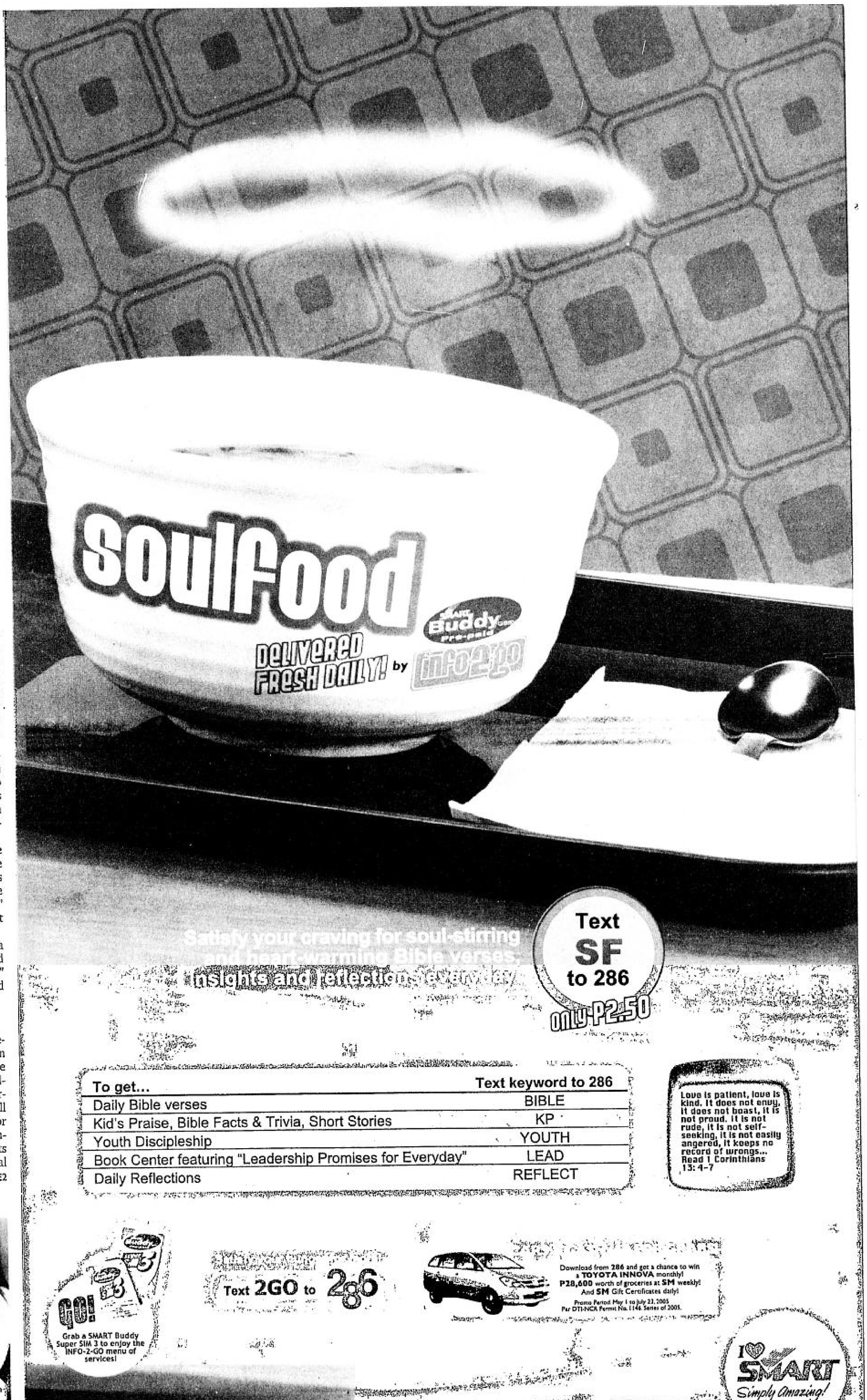
"Three minutes is long enough to talk to a person and see if there's that connection, and short enough if you really don't like him/her," says the modern-day matchmaker Ferdinand Ong, founder and head of Six Degrees.

Results

Results of matches will be sent through e-mail or SMS after two to three days. Only then will each be given personal information of the match, such as contact numbers or e-mail addresses. Prior to that, participants are discouraged to give away personal info such as cell phone numbers, addresses or occupation for personal security reasons. Calls from an unwanted company can be irritating. Participants are advised to keep the conversation to general

SURE/ E2

... OR make a quick getaway when you're not having a good time.



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Book Center featuring "Leadership Promises for Everyday"	LEAD
Daily Reflections	REFLECT

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs... Read 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

GO! Grab a SMART Buddy Super SIM 3 to enjoy the INFO-2-GO menu of services!

Text 2GO to 286

Download from 286 and get a chance to win a TOYOTA INNOVA monthly! P28,600 worth of groceries at SM weekly! And SM Gift Certificates daily!
Promo Period May 1 to July 23, 2005
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1146, Series of 2005.

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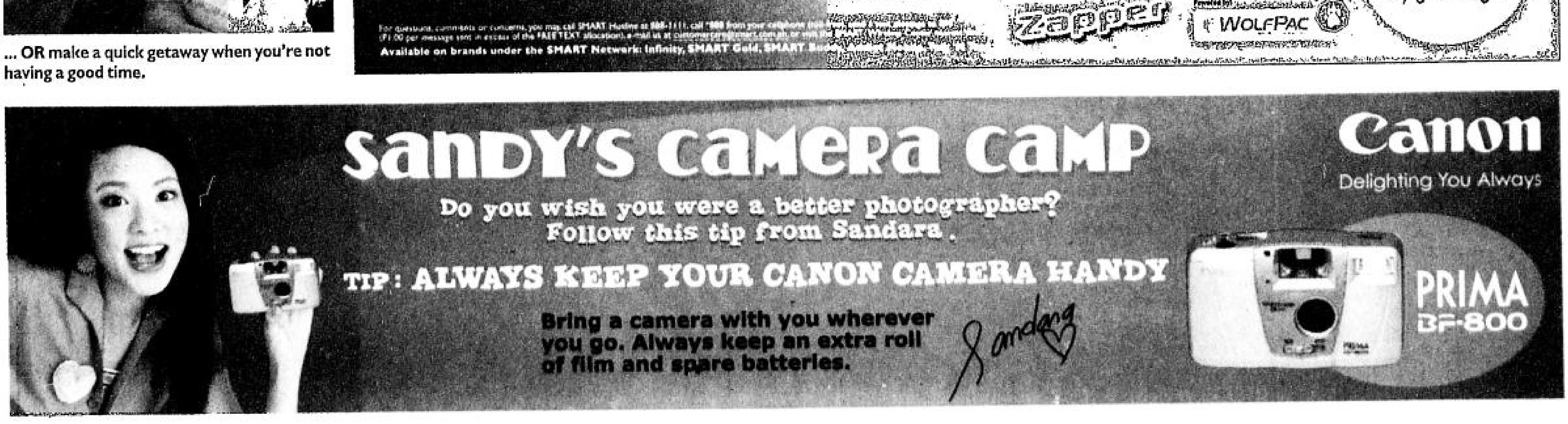

SANDY'S CAMERA CAMP

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TIP: ALWAYS KEEP YOUR CANON CAMERA HANDY

Bring a camera with you wherever you go. Always keep an extra roll of film and spare batteries.

Sandara

Canon
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PRIMA BF-800

THE MEN being prepped on the rules

SPEED dating is like applying for a job, only more casual.

THE AMBIENCE may not be warm and romantic, but for three full minutes, Ong says it's enough to serve its purpose—meeting prospective dates.

Sure and quick date with Mr. Right, more or less

From page E1

stuff like hobbies, likes and dislikes, etc.

When Speed Dating kicked off a few months ago, people thought it was a pathetic attempt of desperate singles to hook up with just about anyone. In the reserved Philippine setting, the prospect of exchanging glances with a stranger in a crowded room during one enchanted evening still makes up the blurry romantic dreams of many conservative Filipinos.

Soon, however, word of mouth spread that it was fun, and the Six Degrees' hotline has been constantly ringing since. So far, Ong says nearly 300 participants have joined, a good number of them already going out on dates regularly. On May 26, 24 single candidates of Miss Philippines are scheduled to participate. Soon to follow are Miss Earth candidates and local mannequins.

"This is a professional-ized way of meeting people, more like applying for job though a bit more casual," Ong says.

On a typical date, says Ong, people normally shell out about P1,000 for dinner, drinks, movies. If things don't go well, they are stuck with a horrible evening ahead. By joining Speed Dating, he says people get to meet about 20-25 singles in one night, and pay only P600-P800, depending on venue and buffet dinner. There is always an equal number of men and women.

"*Sulit 'di ba*? If you won't find that special someone you'll meet new friends. It's a win-win situation," Ong says.

Systematic

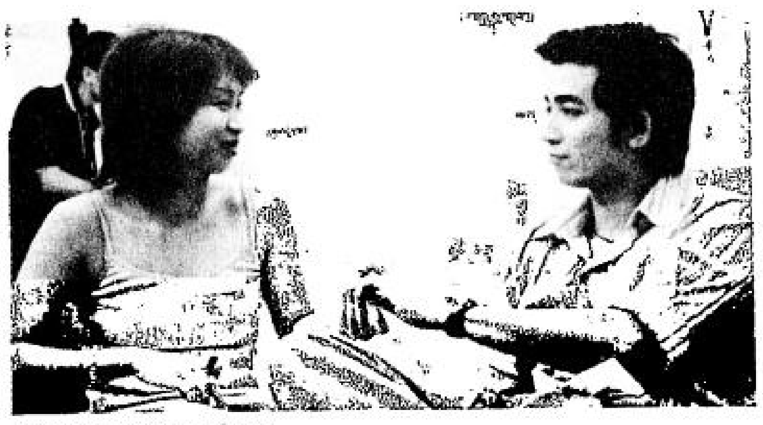
Speed Dating is a systematic and structured way of meeting people. He asks questions, she asks questions, and when the whistle is blown, he moves to the next table (she stays put). If participants want candles and violins and soft lights, Ong says they have to do that after the event. Besides, everyone would be too busy fumbling over his/her lines to notice the difference.

About 60 applicants are received each day. The organizers make sure participants are of legal age, of good moral character and unattached. Those married, engaged, or with girl/boyfriends are not allowed to join. A team does background research on each applicant, so a waiting period of about two weeks should be expected. The research prevents scandals.

In general, matches have always been made as soon as the scorecards are tallied, Ong says. While others are picky, ticking "yes" to a couple or so people, he says a few participants shoot all their bullets in one go; ticking "yes" to all. Desperate? Not really, he says. There are many ways to play one's cards, and this is simply just one strategy.

So, does it really take a mere second to fall in love? Is there such thing as love at first sight? In this game with the crazy little thing called love, perhaps nothing is indeed impossible.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph



IT'S all about chemistry.

MODERN-DAY matchmaker Ferdinand Ong and his staff of female facilitators

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

URBANOZO DEBUT

Lea Marie Eugenio Urbanozo recently celebrated her 18th birthday with a formal dinner dance at Café Villa, New Philippine Army Officer's Club, Fort Bonifacio.

The debutante is the youngest and only daughter of **Luchie** and the late **George M. Urbanozo**. Her cousin and best friend, **Raymund John Rabo**, escorted her. Elder brother **Gerard Paul** and cousin **Jill Pechuelo** were emcees of the program. The affair was attended by relatives and close friends held dear by the debutante.

Lea wore a Thai silk and shantung princess-cut ballgown in criss-crossed draping bodice of rose pink, baby pink and fuchsia designed and executed by **Eddie Baddeo**. She later changed into a cocktail dress also by Baddeo. Mom Luchie also wore a Baddeo creation. Image styling was done by **Madge Lejano** and **Aaron Lejarde**.

DUHAYLUNGSOD-TUPARAN

Joel Duhaylungsod, son of **Magdalena vda. de Duhaylungsod**, will marry **Romela Tuparan**, daughter of **Romeo** and **Lorna Tuparan**, on May 29 at Philippine International Church, Adventist University of the Philippines campus, Cavite.

GO-YOUNG

Nicolas Jason Colai Go, son of **Jack** and **Nelia Uy Go**, will marry **Cocaine Young**, daughter of **Eduardo** and **Agapita Young**, on June 5, at Sacred Parish in Tacloban City.

Jude Elardo designed the bridal gown.

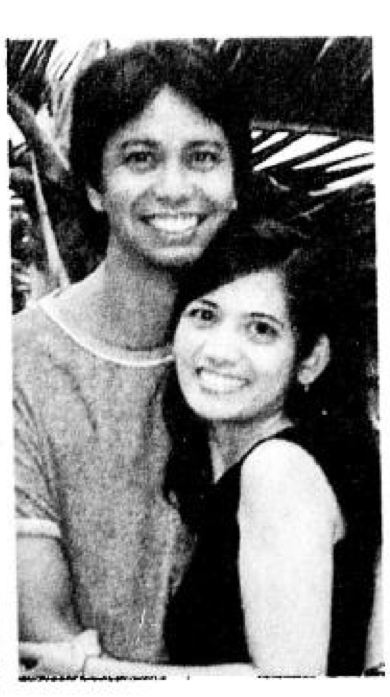
NAVARRO-DANGCA

Bryan E. Navarro, son of **Honofre** (deceased) and **Gloria Navarro**, will marry **Gemelli G. Dangca**, daughter of **Gerardo** and **Amelia Dangca**, on June 11 at the St. Joseph Parish (home of the Bamboo Organ) in Las Piñas City. Reception will follow at the Ecotrend Garden, Ecotrend Villas.

FERREZ-MARCELO

Bessemer Ferrez Jr., son of engineer and Ms **Bessemer Ferrez Sr.**, and **Marjorie Marcelo**, daughter of **Eduardo** and **Milagros Marcelo**, will exchange vows on May 28, at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at Mabuhay Palace, Manila Hotel, Rizal Park.

The bride will wear a princess cut, off-shoulder wedding gown by **Edd Sy**.



SALVADOR-TAROY

Gredge Salvador, son of **Reynaldo** and **Teresita Salvador**, will wed **Tine Taroy**, daughter of **Antonio** and **Zenaida Taroy**, on May 29, at the Parish of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary in West Triangle, QC. Reception will follow at the Tivoli Royale Country Club, Batasan Hills, QC.

The bride will wear a strapless two-piece ensemble in off-white duchess satin with black accents and split front detail adorned with Swarovski and crystal cut beads specially designed by the groom and made by **Fashion Forward**.

TUMLOS-GARCIA

Efraim Tumlos Jr., son of **Efraim Sr.** and **Mila Tumlos**, will exchange marriage vows with **Mary Grace Garcia**, daughter of **Emiliano** and **Bernardita Garcia**, on June 4, at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Calamba City. The bride will wear an **Edward Teng** creation.

DILAG GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Napoleon and **Eleanor Dilag** will celebrate their golden anniversary on May 25 at Paco Church, San Fernando de Dilao, 1521 Paz Street, Paco, Manila.

Makeup demonstrations for brides at 3-day fair

FESTIVAL Supermall in Alabang, is holding a three-day bridal fair and exhibit May 27-29 at the Carousel Court.

The fair will feature an on-the-spot hair and makeup demonstration courtesy of Glenn Hair, musical entertainment by Serenata Strings and Beatitude String Ensemble, and fashion revues by Desiree Baro't Saya and Edgar Garcia.

Prospective brides get tips on how to have a well-planned and organized wedding.

The week-long (May 16-21) Fashion Fever Dolls and a Fashion Fever Runway show at the Carousel Court will enable young girls to experience being on a catwalk. Aside from the Barbie Fashion Fever, the event will also mark the launching of the Barbie Fairytopia movie.

Purchase of any Barbie item entitles you to a pass to the exclusive Barbie Fairytopia exhibit.

A Fairytopia coloring contest will also be held while "Elina Fairy" will be available for photo shoots at the Flower Castle.

The Fiesta Fair and Santacruzan showcasing Philippine-made handicrafts and gift items ends today. The "Niños y Niñas de Mayo sa Alabang" at the Expo Trade and Music Hall on May 29 is expected to be the grandest kiddie Flores de Mayo in the city.

Festival Supermall is at Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa. Call 8503514.

Concert at CCP

"C Majors" will be held on May 25, 8 p.m. at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo (Main Theater), Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The concert features the music of Levi Celerio, Ernani Cuenca, George Canseco, Willy Cruz, Jose Mari Chan and Ryan Cayabyab. Directing the concert is Floy Quintos, while Ryan Cayabyab is music director and chorale and orchestra conductor. Call 8919999.

Friends have a one-night stand

From page E4

relationship. You yourself said you're not in love with him and that a relationship with him was useless and would ruin your life.

Despite your denial I think you fell for him, even just a tiny bit. His constant text messages to you and constant reinforcement of the idea that you were special to him would have been the itty-bitty seeds needed to plant the suspicion in your mind there was more to it than friendship.

You may have been his friend in your mind, but you certainly weren't in his.

Men love to hunt and, like it or not, you have been another conquest for him. And you fell into his trap culminating in this so-called "drunkenness" when you "dropped" the ball.

Whether you accept it or not, you wanted it as much as he did. You played with fire and, luckily, you had covered your emotions with a fire-retardant frame of mind and didn't get burned too badly.

If you were truly being honest with yourself, you should be able to put this episode behind and get on with your life. Unless, of course, starting his third family is becoming attractive to you.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. *Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.*

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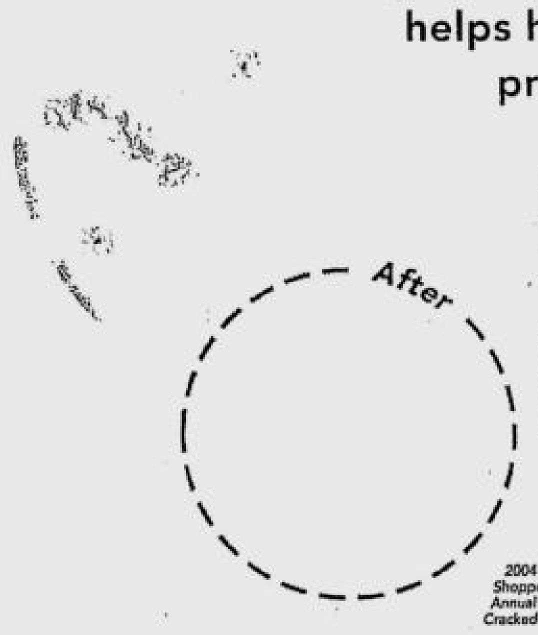
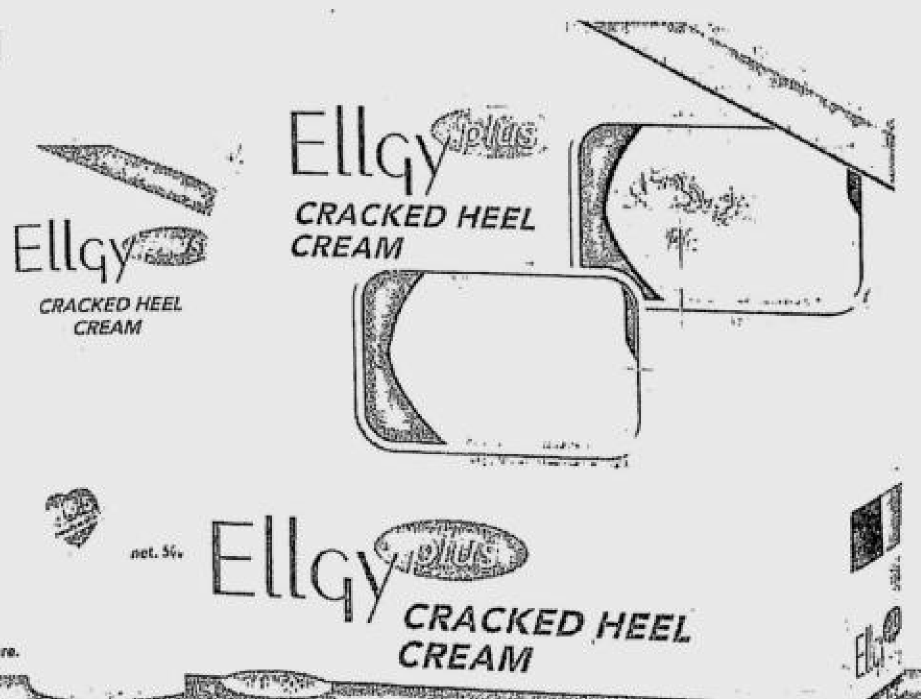
Ellgy plus also contains Portulaca Extract, a natural source of Essential Fatty Acids which strengthens the epidermal lipid layer so that the moisture is then sealed into your skin to maintain natural moisturizing effect.



2004 National Shopper's Choice Annual Awards for Cracked Heel Cream

Ellgy plus is free from animal testing, color & fragrance.
Also recommended for diabetics as part of their regular foot care.



PLDT Achieves Worldwide Recognition

The Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT) has reached a milestone in Philippine business by earning itself a place in the 2005 Edition Special Issue of the prestigious Forbes Global 2000.

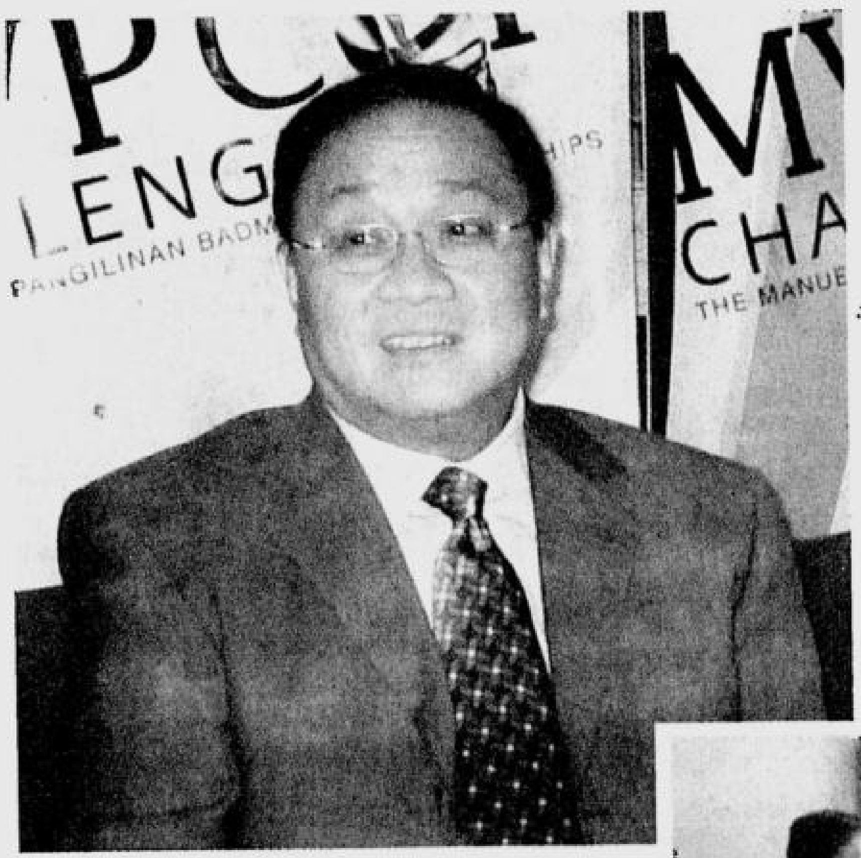
Under the leadership of Chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan, PLDT is in fact the only Philippine corporation to earn this distinction.

In doing so, not only has PLDT established itself as a leading company on a global scale, it has also succeeded in reinforcing the image of the Philippines as an attractive investment destination. PLDT is also leading in other fronts.

PLDT's Legacy in Corporate Social Responsibility

PLDT has established a legacy in corporate social responsibility, being one of the keystone companies in the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) and in supporting local sports.

Most notable of projects are the Lead to Gold campaigns of PLDT and SMART, a sports advancement program that will grow local talents in badminton and soccer. PLDT and SMART Chairman Pangilinan is at the helm of the upcoming MVP Cup this July, 2005, a badminton championship between the best teams of Europe and Asia. Some are beginning to compare the MVP Cup to events of such recognition as golf's Ryder Cup.



Listed in Forbes Global 2000

PLDT and SMART Chairman Manuel V. Pangilinan together with SMART PCMSD Head Boy Martirez confer with former first lady Ming Ramos on plans for the upcoming MVP Cup this July

PLDT
MVP CUP ASIA vs EUROPE THE MANUEL V. PANGILINAN BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS
SMART Simply Amazing!

Friends have a one-night stand

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR Emily,

I met this successful businessman when we both joined a civic activity in the city. It started a friendship that involved the frequent sending of text messages, sharing of problems, hanging out together in discos and places of fun.

He told me his life was a mess and I felt that being with me made him so happy. We became so close that we even started calling each other "honey."

I knew of his first family and his second family, and I had no plans of being part of his third family. I was just someone who really understood him and accepted him for what he was.

I was sincere when I said I didn't have any intentions of further ruining his life. I was a friend he could rely on and, if I were special, it was because I was someone he could run to for comfort.

I did not think of love at all. Had he confessed he loved me, I would have told him immediately that it was a waste of time and that I was not going to ruin my life and add to his already many problems.

One day, after getting so drunk, we just found ourselves in bed together. I hated myself for it.

After that incident, we didn't see or call each other for three weeks. He sent me a text message saying he had fallen in love with me. I answered by telling him I didn't love him and, to stop us from hurting each other, it was best that we did not see each other anymore.

This letter, which I hope he reads, is just to tell him that I was a good friend and that, despite all his problems, it is a beautiful life.

CP.

I don't think you need an answer to your letter. But let me just reinforce your resolve to put an end to this dead-end

FRIENDS/ E3

HP holds iPAQ Trade In, Trade Up Promo

Manila, Philippines, May 12, 2005 - Here is your chance to own the latest mobile handheld gadget in town as HP Philippines once again heats up the iPAQ Trade in, Trade Up promo.

On May 27 to 29, 2005, from 10am to 9pm, the Atrium of the Shangri-La Mall in EDSA, will be turned into one big gadget haven where you can see, feel and try out HP's wide range of digital photography and digital entertainment products including printers, digicams and computers will be showcased in HP's biggest, most elaborate IT consumer event for the year entitled "MAKE IT REAL! MAKE IT HP! - A Technology Event for Everybody."

As one of the highlights of the event, HP will hold the iPAQ Trade In, Trade Up promo. Get a chance to own the best in mobile handhelds like the iPAQ 6365 and other exciting iPAQ models for as much as Php10,000 off when you trade in any working or non-working PDAs or GSM mobile phones (with battery and charger).

The new HP iPAQs Pocket PCs enable mobile professionals and consumers to wirelessly access digital content and services such as corporate data, wireless printing, location-sensitive services, voice over WiFi, music downloads and streaming video.

The event will be held in partnership with PLDT MyDSL, Shangri-la Plaza Mall, Monster Radio RX 93.1, 96.3 WRocK, 105.9 Crossover, Joey 92.3, NU 107, JAM 88.3, Wave 89.1, RT, Mellow Touch and 90.7 Love Radio.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience HP!

About HP
HP is a technology solutions provider to consumers, businesses and institutions globally. The company's offerings span IT infrastructure, global services, business and home computing, and imaging and printing. For the four fiscal quarters ended Jan. 31, 2005, HP revenue totaled $81.8 billion. More information about HP (NYSE, Nasdaq: HPQ) is available at www.hp.com.

* SALE PRICES APPLIES ON CASH PURCHASES ONLY
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GRETSCH
- Gibraltar 6600PK hardware set
- Zildjian Titanium Pro pre packed
- Free 1 night stay for 2 at Hotel Elizabeth Baguio
CA-S825/DW (all color) Reg. Price ~~P100,150.00~~ Sale Price P70,000

GRETSCH
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Reg. Price ~~P8,550.00~~ Sale Price P6,295
- Schindler 1320/PK bass gtr. w/ amp
Reg. Price ~~P10,200.00~~ Sale Price P7,295

Montana STRINGED INSTRUMENTS
Montana CL-80
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Montana MT-105.AF
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Höfner
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Promo period is from May 4 to May 31 of 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2449, Series of 2005.

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ABDON-TURALBA NUPTIALS

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He was attracted to her unassuming ways, while she was especially taken by his sense of humor

STORY ON PAGE F2

Coleman

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ISAO Takahashi, Suzuki Takeshi, Antonio Turalba Sr., Hiruki Tanaka and Shota Daisuke

THE COUPLE with Angela Turalba, Antonio Turalba Jr. and Anjeanette Turalba Fuentebella

Instant attraction, lifetime commitment

JUN Pena, Dr. Elenita Binay, Nini Licaros

DR. Gerard Ona, Dr. Noel Aypa and Maricel Aypa

ROBERT Fansler and Education Secretary Butch Abad

ANTONELLA "Anton" Turalba and Carlo Abdon met in a restaurant owned by Turalba's friend, who happened to be a sister of Abdon's friend.

Abdon, a businessman, and Turalba, who is involved in the family's real-estate company, the Active Group, hit it off immediately. He was attracted to her unassuming ways while she was especially taken by his sense of humor.

After a year-and-a-half of steady dating, the couple sealed their love with a lavish wedding at the beautiful and historic San Sebastian Cathedral in Lipa City, Batangas. Turalba was radiant as she walked down the aisle on the arm of her proud father, Antonio Turalba Sr., with her mother Cristina by her side.

Her gown, designed by Rajo Laurel, was in a non-traditional champagne color with Art Deco-inspired embroidery in five separate pieces. The church attire included an opera coat with corset and chiffon skirt. (At the reception, she changed into chiffon trousers with a chiffon shrug.)

The bridesmaids and flower girls wore gowns in tangerine and ocher with horsehair sculptural shawl. Hair and makeup were by Rocky Orejola of Basement Salon.

Principal sponsors were Sen. Ralph Recto and Lipa City Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto, Makati Mayor Jejomar and Elenita Binay, Isao Takahashi, Evelyn Fuentebella, Armando Bautista, Nightingale Keyes, Mauricio Alcon, Fidelia Panlilio, Charlie Gorayeb and Mercedes Llamas.

Matron of honor was the bride's sister, Anjeanette Fuentebella. Bridesmaids were the bride's youngest sister, Angela, and the groom's sister, Jocelyn.

As Turalba wanted a garden reception like her brother and sister before her, the family's sprawling garden at their residence at the Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club and Residential Estates was spruced up. But heavy rains forced the transfer of the reception to the new ballroom of the Mount Malarayat Country Club.

The Mount Malarayat ballroom was elegantly decorated by florist Toni Padilla. The bride's father, a gourmet, made sure only the best from the Mount Malarayat Country Club kitchen was served.

A whole fresh tuna was flown in from General Santos City for the sashimi and sushi buffet. Calves and pigs were roasted at the ballroom terrace where guests had cocktails while taking in the view of the Mt. Malarayat mountain range.

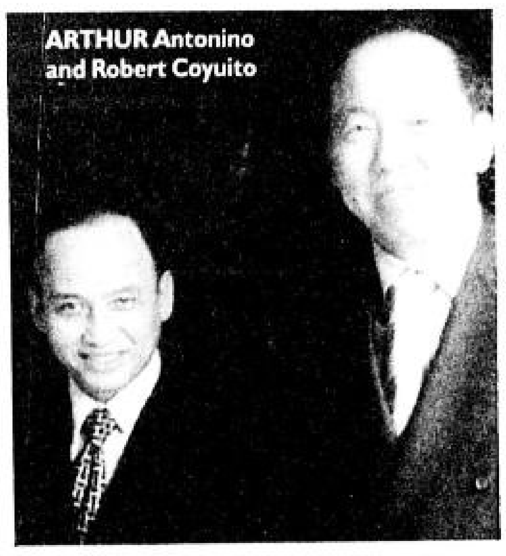
Guests who drove to Lipa for the wedding included Education Secretary and Ms Butch Abad, Rep. Arnulfo Fuentebella, Jeena Lopez, Abe and Nini Licaros, Robert Coyuito, Ricky Gutierez, Doreen Yu, Armand Raquel Santos, Robert and Lolita Delgado-Fansler, Magnolia Antonino, Pinky Amador, Gerry and Maricris Vermont Garcia.

The groom's youngest sister, bridesmaid Angela, brought her boyfriend, Dr. Eugene Fukudome, his parents, aunts, uncles and friends from the United States. Principal sponsor Isao Takahashi brought friends from Japan, and Jack Chan and Frank and Petite Desmeyer from Hong Kong.

After the dinner and before the dancing started, guests were treated to a spectacular 15-minute fireworks display.

THE BRIDE with her parents, Antonio Turalba Sr. and Cristina Turalba

MAKATI Mayor Jejomar Binay and Dr. Elenita Binay



ARTHUR Antonino and Robert Coyuito

REP. Arnulfo Fuentebella and Joey Valenzuela

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

RAYA-TEQUILLO

Basil Jon Raya, eldest son of **Basil Genson** and **Baby Nartatez Raya**, exchanged vows recently with **Analyn Tequillo**, daughter of **Dr. Rene** and **Elsie Tequillo**, at the National Shrine of St. Joseph, Mandaue City, Cebu. Reception followed at Casino Español de Cebu Ballroom, Cebu City.

The bride wore an off-white silk gazar with a heavily beaded Chantilly lace top adorned with Swarovski crystals and accented with a champagne dope-dyed chiffon sash designed by **Wendell Quisido.**

TADEO-GARCIA

Paul Steven N. Tadeo, son of **Angel** and **Rebecca** (deceased) **Tadeo,** will wed **Toni Rose I. Garcia,** daughter of **Victorio** and **Erlinda Garcia,** on June 18 at Our Lady of Remedies Parish Church. Reception will be at the Coral Ballroom of Manila Pavilion Hotel. The bride will wear a strapless gown in off-white duchess satin by **Cecilio Abad.**

EUSEBIO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Lino Sr. and **Teresita Eusebio** celebrated recently their golden anniversary at the Santuario de San Antonio, Makati City. Reception followed at the InterContinental Hotel, Makati. The gowns of the bride and entourage were done by **Paul Rex Mateo.**

BORBAJO GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Crisostomo G. Borbajo Sr. and **Gregoria C. Borbajo** of Sta. Rosa, Laguna, offered a Thanksgiving Mass at St. Jerome Emiliani and Sta. Susana Church, Alabang, Muntinlupa, last May 8 in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. The celebrant was Rev. Fr. **Hemanto Pius Rozario,** CSC. Reception followed at Dad's Kamayan, Alabang Town Center.

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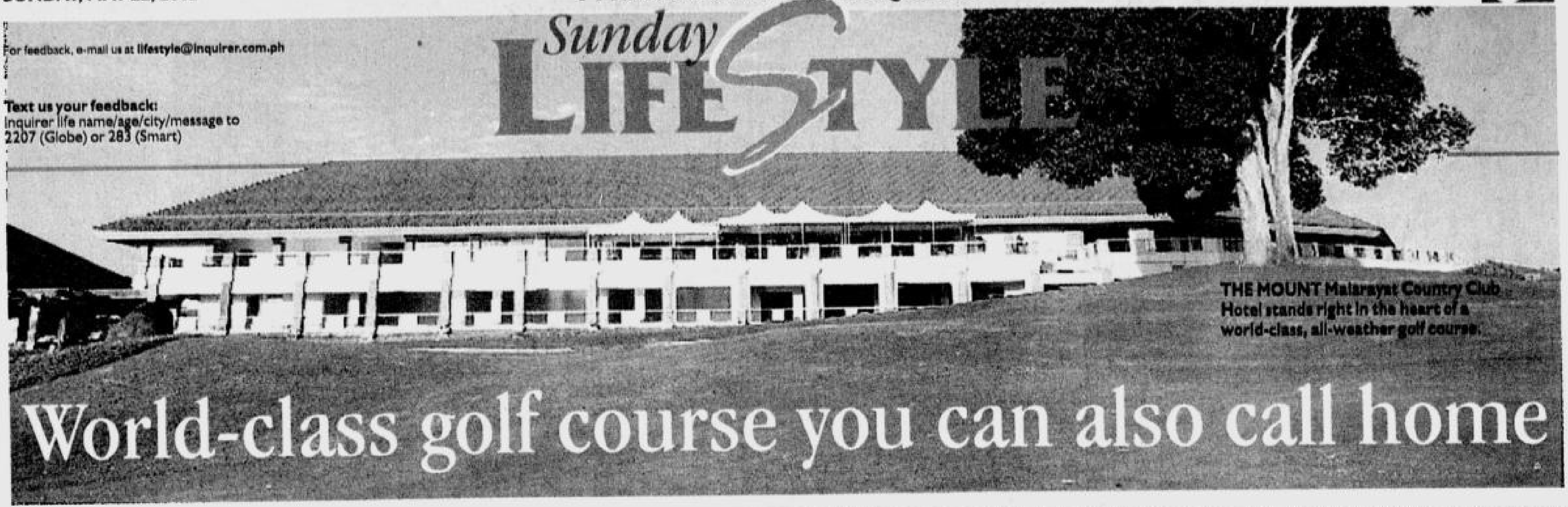


THE MOUNT Malarayat Country Club Hotel stands right in the heart of a world-class, all-weather golf course.

World-class golf course you can also call home

The site of the 89th Philippine Open is also an exclusive retreat from the pressures of city living

By Vangie Baga-Reyes

IT MAY be getting rave reviews from avid sportsmen for its golf course, but Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club and Residential Estates in Lipa, Batangas, has things to offer even non-golfers.

The site of the ongoing 89th Philippine Open has also become an exclusive retreat from the pressures of city living for a growing number of people.

"Club Malarayat has been a byword not only among golfers but also people seeking to escape the noise, pollution and daily grind of urban life," says architect Antonio A. Turalba Sr., chair of Active Group Inc., which developed the 200-ha complex. "It is also a hideaway where people may simply sit back, relax and enjoy life. Imagine taking it easy in the cool highland climate of Lipa."

The luxury golf and country club is nestled at the foot of picturesque Mt. Malarayat. It has generous expanses of greenery such as parks, gardens, wooded pathways and numerous lakes.

Respecting nature

Nature lovers will be happy to know Club Malarayat's construction followed the natural hilly contours and landforms.

"Instead of conquering the site and disturbing its serenity and peace by cutting the trees, we designed the whole place to flow harmoniously with the surroundings. For example, the clubhouse sits around an old, large mango tree," says Turalba.

The club offers various amenities: swimming pool complex, gym, equestrian center, and a range of facilities for indoor sports such as basketball, badminton, billiards, bowling, darts, ping-pong, tennis and squash. A children's center is designed like a clubhouse complete with changing rooms, spacious play areas, computer stations and a snack bar.

Turalba says Club Malarayat is designed as a facility that would allow families to spend quality time together.

"Club Malarayat was never meant to be just a golf course as the project was conceived as a place for the entire family to enjoy a leisure and recreational destination," says Turalba.

Active Group of Companies, a partnership between Turalba Sr. and his wife, Cristina Valera Turalba, has been in the real estate business for 35 years. Its successful projects range from middle-income housing to urban high-rises.

Home away from home

Mount Malarayat recently inaugurated its hotel, naming its biggest function room after the distinguished Batangueño, former President Jose P. Laurel.

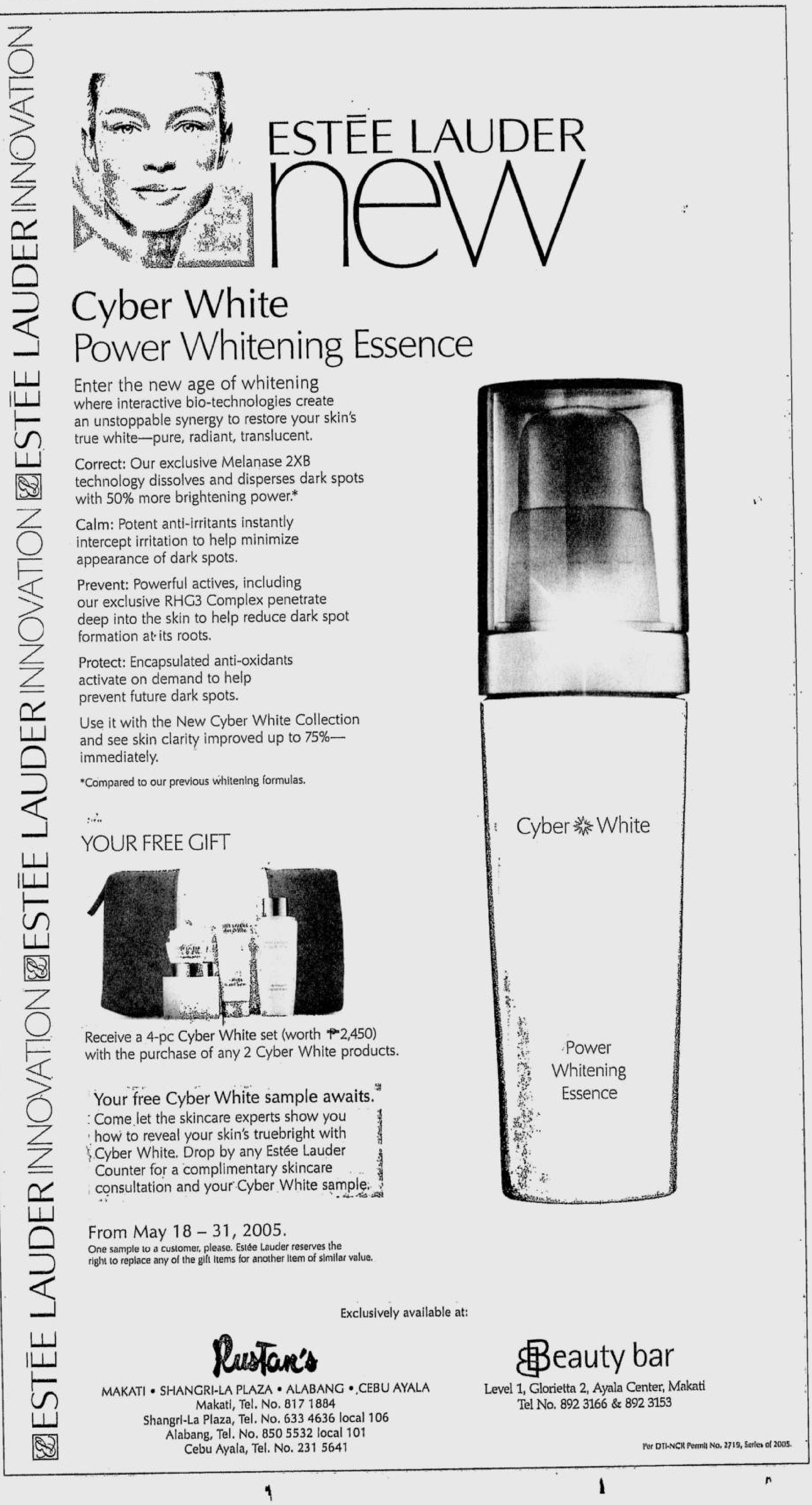
The 32-bedroom Malarayat Hotel is designed like a Mexican ranch house with terra-cotta-tiled roofs and whitewashed walls. Inside, all the creature comforts guests expect for a memorable stay are provided for.

Laurel Hall is suitable as venue for a large social function. Overlooking the greens and the mountain range, it can seat 300. The spacious veranda can hold an additional 150 guests.

Four smaller function rooms are ideal for

WORLD-CLASS/ G2

ARCHITECT Antonio Turalba Sr., chair of Active Group Inc., which developed the 200-hectare Malarayat complex



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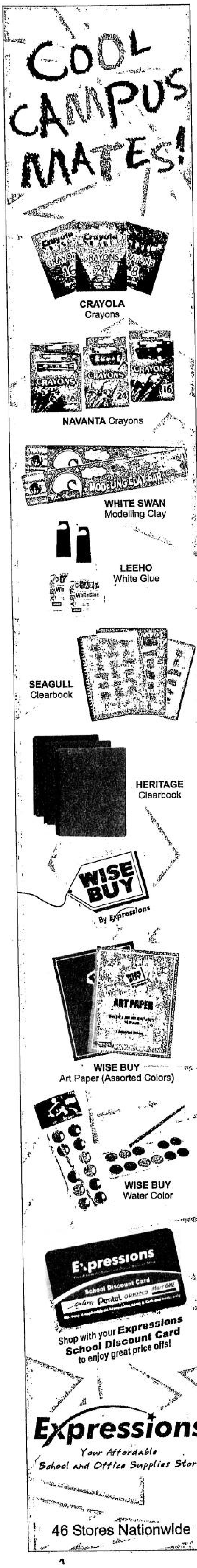
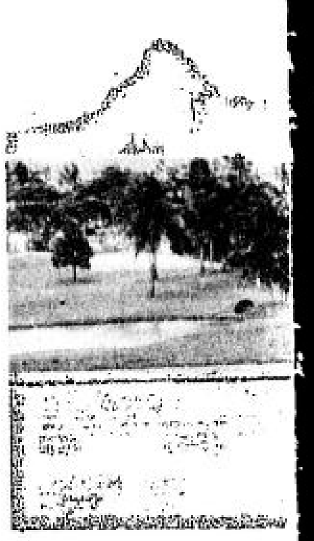


FORMAL opening of Mt. Malarayat Club Hotel, with Antonio Turalba Sr., Department of Tourism Region IV director Louella Jurilla, Gov. Jose Laurel V, and Active Group vice chair Ma. Cristina Turalba

THE 32-BEDROOM hotel offers cozy, clean and comfortable rooms for clubmembers and guests.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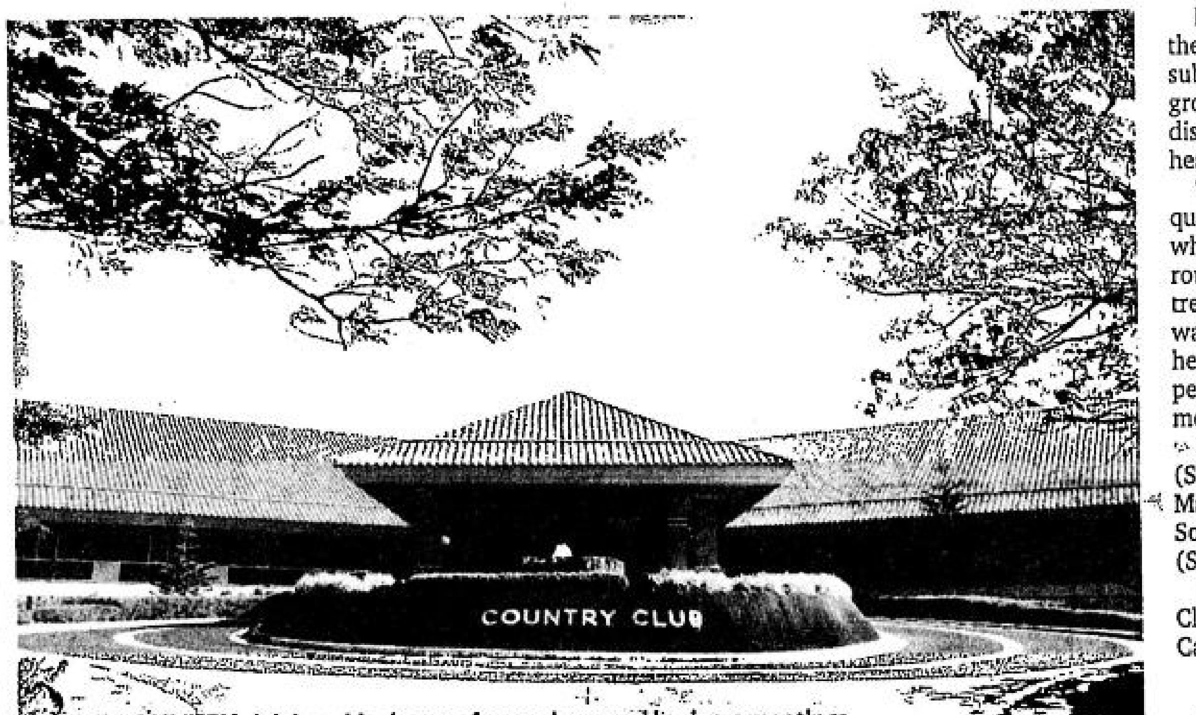

THE COUNTRY club is an ideal venue for seminars and business meetings.

From page G1

business meetings and weekday seminars.

Complementing the hotel is The Inns at Club Malarayat, offering accommodation for club members' guests. It consists of 11 standard rooms, two premier rooms and four family rooms at affordable prices, with a spectacular view of the fairways.

Longer-staying guests will enjoy condominium amenities at The Suites. Designed as a home away from home, The Suites is luxury residences just across the club's facilities and equipped with all the features of a full-service apartment. One building has 18 one-bedroom suites while the other has 27 studio units. Each unit has a balcony with a magnificent view of the fairways and the mountain range.

Sophisticated

Mount Malarayat Residential Estates, on the other hand, is a sophisticated residential subdivision. It has concrete roads, underground drainage system, centralized water-distribution and irrigation system, and overhead electrical-distribution system.

"We see to it that property owners enjoy a quality of life that goes beyond shelter. That's why every project respects the natural surroundings, without leveling hills, uprooting trees or impeding the direction and flow of waterways. Our clients are assured of clean, healthy and safe community, along with peace of mind and protection of their investments," says Turalba.

From the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) in Santo Tomas, Batangas, Mt. Malarayat is accessible through the Southern Tagalog Arterial Road (STAR) Toll Way.

Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club is open for associate membership. Call 8937024 to 28.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph.

CLUB facilit

KITE-FLYING, fishing and remote-control boating are just some of the popular activities at Club Malarayat.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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Topiary-type flower arrangemen

By Serapion S. Metilla
Contributor

GREEN TIPS

FLOWER arrangement has many forms and styles. One of them is the topiary form.

Technically, topiary, which originated in the Western World and is derived from the Latin word *topiarius*, means "ornamental gardener." It is the art of arranging plants into various shapes and forms like globes, boxes, even animals.

One way to make a topiary arrangement is to use driftwood or a branch of a tree with single, double or more heads, the size may be equivalent to a baby's arm and two feet more or less in height or a man's arm and three feet high, or a man's leg if a bigger arrangement is desired.

After you have decided on the size and height, have the basal end attached with half-driven common nails and anchored halfway in a pot (cement or clay) with concrete mixture, so that the remaining space can be filled with floral foam.

Attach balls of floral foam, each about the size of a fist, wrapped in chicken wires and tied tightly with a rubber strip to the apexes of each branch. The foam should be fully soaked in clean water before it is filled with leaves such as *kamuning*, *sinamomo*, asparagus or fine-leafed papua, fully covering each floral foam.

Anchor your flowers to every ball. The length of flower stems should put the flower heads just barely above gro should be spaced evenly b er in a ball shape.

You may choose one combination of different However, see to it that th your combination. At the b iary, it is suggested that yo foliage.

Some of the flowers ap aries are roses, mums, ge plumerias (*kalachuchi*), Dendrobium orchids. The rias have to be wired indivi

Topiaries are suitable fo consider the size of the spa

Call 9394593 to find out arrangement.

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more about flower

Attract good feng shui in marriage

THE YEAR of the Wooden Rooster is considered to be one of the best years to get married, according to Lillian Too, a feng shui master from Malaysia.

She said, though the year had no *Lap Chun* or the start of Spring (the lunar New Year began Feb. 9 several days after spring began), the year was auspicious for marriage because of the location of its Annual Star No. 4 (Love Star) at the center of the home this year.

But to further ensure happiness in love and marriage, Too suggested that the southwest part of the house, living room or bedroom be enhanced with "love energizers." In feng shui, southwest is the universal direction for marriage and love.

People searching for love and long-term commitment should activate their Peach Blossom luck. For Rabbit, Sheep and Boar, the peach blossom animal is the Blue Rat. The Tiger, Horse or Dog should have the Green Rabbit.

The Red Horse is for the Ox, Snake and Rooster. Rat, Dragon and Monkey should have the Golden Rooster.'

A pair of Mandarin ducks at the southwest section of the bedroom or living room will help create lucky Chi. In feng shui, a pair of rose quartz hearts in the southwest attracts luck in marriage.

The Peach Aventurine Double Happiness Symbol will ensure enduring love. It is a widely recognized symbol of conjugal bliss and marital happiness.

The Carp is also regarded as good marital fortune symbol. The Dragon and Phoenix symbol is the ultimate Yang and Yin of Chinese cosmology and mythology. The Dragon symbolizes male vitality and fertility, while the Phoenix represents splendor and female beauty.

Crystal or glass spheres can enhance love and harmony. The elephant is the symbol of fertility. A picture or real pomegranate on the western part of the bedroom can also improve fertility. Crystal globes in the northeast sector of the living room will help make children more intelligent.

Feng shui experts advise against having an aquarium, picture of rivers or waterfalls, or a fountain in the bedroom. They also discourage mirrors in the bedroom.

The World of Feng Shui has a wide variety of gifts to enhance the newlyweds' good luck. Visit the WOFS Boutique at the ground floor of The Podium, 18 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City, or call 9147112.

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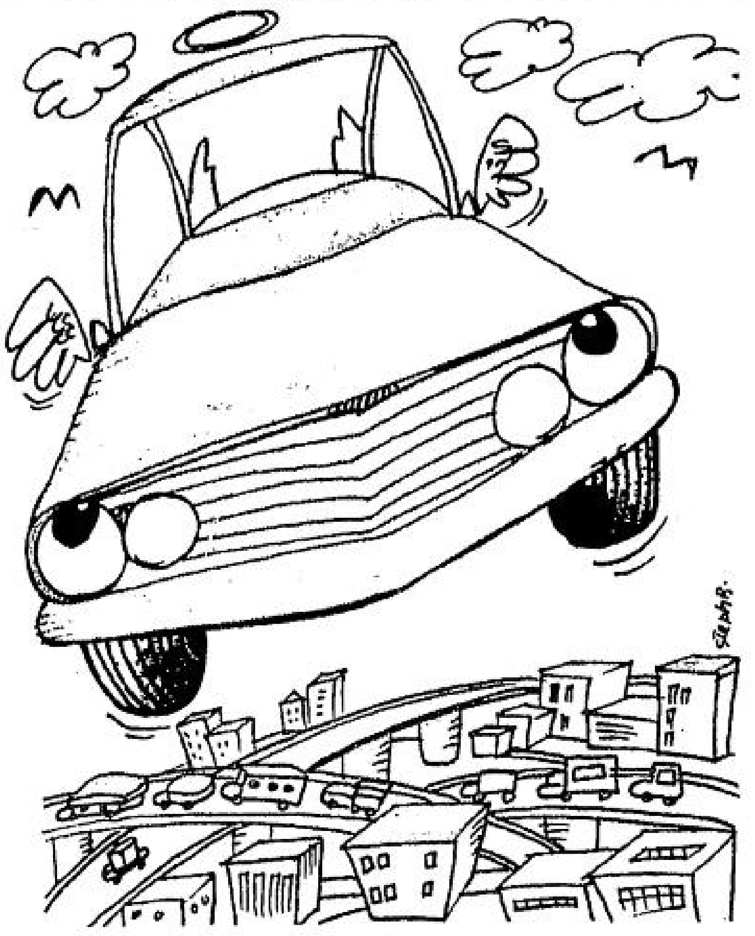


Do old cars go to heaven?

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

A BAKER from Malolos was buying my mother's 25-year-old car that was too unsightly to use, too run-down to overhaul, but too recent to be considered antique. It was already 1980 and the heap was still rusting in her garage. The offer: P7,000. Boy, was my dear old mother incensed!

> Some oyster-bed owners just immersed old heaps into the sea to grow those big, juicy oysters on. 'Pang-talaba?' my dear mother wailed incredulously, tears peeping out of her eyes

We thought it was a fair enough price for something that had seen action for 20 years, whose door was wired because it opened by itself at ghostly intervals, whose back right window was permanently stuck open so that you had to use an umbrella in it on a stormy day.

Mama's pride was hurt. "You know what that—that social-climbing *panadero* wants to do with my Pontiac?" she fumed. "*Pang- rasyon ng tinapay!*"

The green sedan, after all, was roomy, with flaring tail fins and a grill large enough to barbecue two dozen hotdogs on. Now it would deliver dirty bread with red filling! Mama began to cry.

The Pontiac had brought her youngest daughter to her debut in Safari restaurant. It had lived through three changes of administration, survived floods, excursioned to Vigan, Bataan and Olongapo, hauled my father's dead body, brought her older grandchildren to their graduation, fetched rent, delivered cakes—done everything, in fact, but fly.

The whole of its first month of life with mother it lived under a blue mosquito net. In its dotage, when the car stalled or began to cough in the middle of a green light, the old driver merely had to remind it of their years together, of *utang na loob* and *pakikisama*, and the Pontiac would leap and chug on to Mama's destination.

Lost morale

When my parents bought a new car, the old Pontiac was retired deep within the narrow carport where the roof was ramshackle. They always intended to repair the roof, but never got around to it.

Only if the new Datsun was off for its 1,000-mile checkup was the ancient Pontiac rolled out. But the old car had lost its morale and no longer would it respond to entreaties. Once, its batteries deliberately went dead on the railroad tracks.

We explained to my mother that the poor thing didn't really have much resale value. Something about the shape of its fender didn't allow its conversion into a diesel. Being a Pontiac, neither could its motor be converted into a seafaring outboard. Since it stalled and so forth, the Foreign Affairs office, to which she wanted to donate (!) the big car to transport visiting dignitaries, would be just too mortified.

A dentist-nephew, in fact, to whom it had earlier been on trial adoption, quickly returned the gift when it lost its brakes going down Quezon Bridge.

So the baker's offer wasn't too bad after all. It was still better than the lot of my mother's friend's Cadillac which had been bought by a refrigerator repairman. He had sawed off its top like a sardine can, and it tooled around picking up junk refrigerators.

It was better off than other old cars bought by film companies for stunt movies which were put on a precipice and pushed. It was better than mother's garage-less neighbor's 1959 Plymouth that he had abandoned by an Ermita sidewalk rather than pay the (then) P3-an-hour parking fee nightly.

And, well, some oyster-bed owners just immersed old heaps into the sea to grow those big, juicy oysters on. "*Pang-talaba?*" my dear mother wailed incredulously, tears peeping out of her eyes.

And so money changed hands, and congratulations (chuckle, chuckle), the innocent *panadero* was now the owner of a green Pontiac revved up with nothing but old memories.

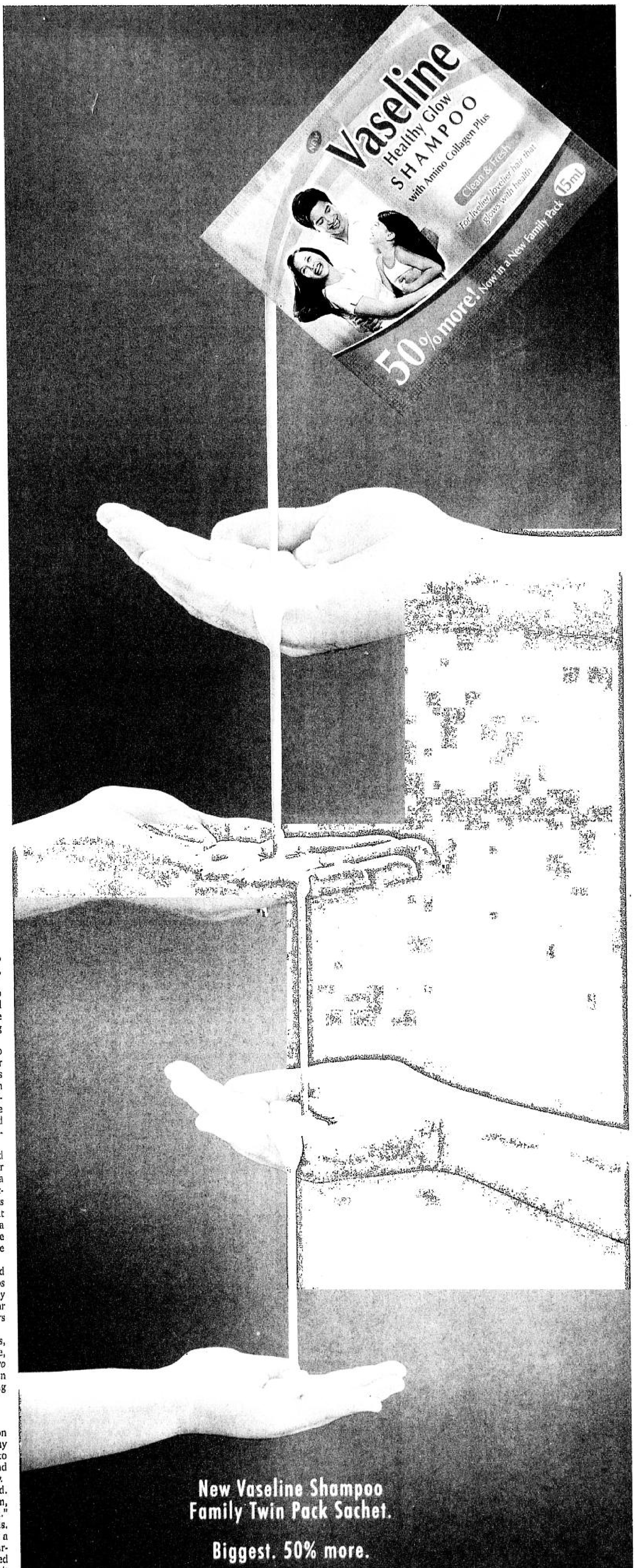
Carnapped

We never met the Pontiac on the street, but two years later, my mother accidentally bumped into the *panadero* in Divisoria. "And how is my car?" she asked loftily.

The *panadero* shook his head. "You won't believe this, ma'am, but last month it was carnapped."

My mother was incredulous. Our antique driver went behind a telephone pole to chuckle. Apparently, the fellow had overhauled the Pontiac, had even bought it four new tires with mag wheels, fixed the doors, soldered the leaks and practically overhauled the motor through the years.

DO OLD/ H3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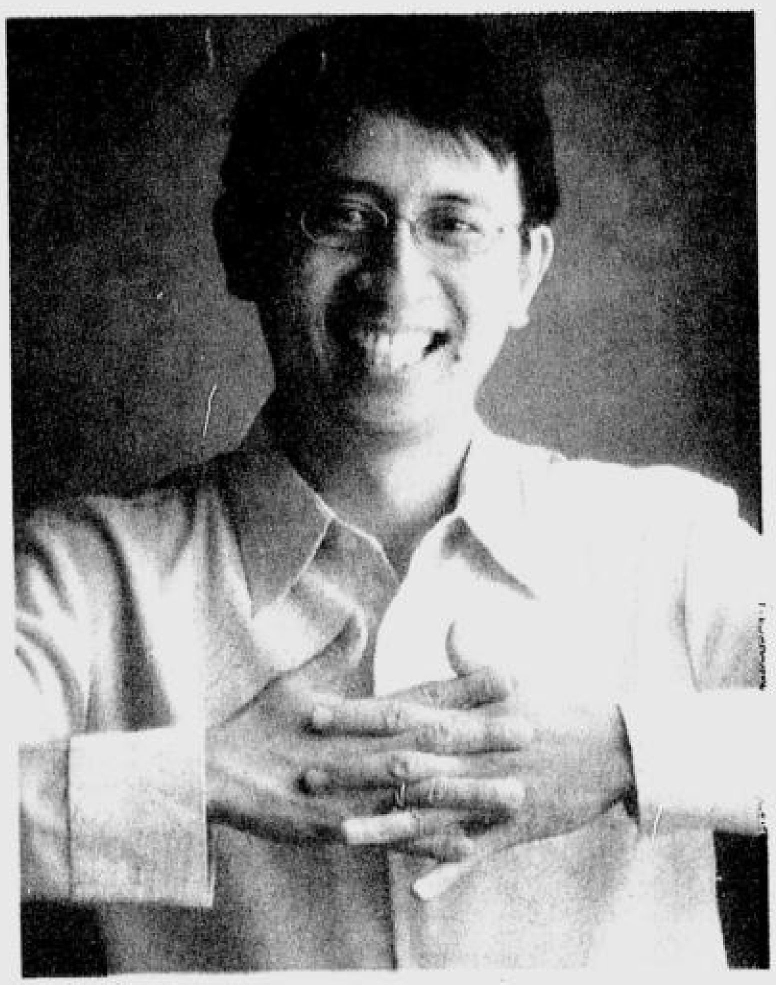
*Varies according to usage and size of family.

Money not the root of evil, says Brother Bo

'Money is a wonderful thing if you make a decision that the goal of being rich should be to help others'



BO Sanchez

MANDY NAVASERO

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

AT AGE 38, Brother Bo Sanchez leads an enigmatic, almost unbelievable life.

He is a father of two, he has a bachelor's degree in philosophy and masters in theology (at the Ateneo de Manila), he is publisher of widely read inspirational magazines (Kerygma, etc.) and author of six inspirational books, one of which is the no-nonsense "Simplify and Live a Good Life."

On this blistering noonday meeting, I expect a Bible-quoting person deploring my non-church-going habits (on a Sunday, Mahler's "Resurrection" is enough) and making me feel like evil personified in the sea of Sunday worshippers.

But his smile looked real, the handshake didn't feel like a beginning of exorcism and the aura of optimism is contagious.

Like a devil's advocate, I confront him about what ails this country: leadership gone wrong, media men being murdered almost every month, an entire family being indicted for plunder. He adds his own grim statistics—33 percent of Filipinos live in poverty and that is a mass of 26 million souls going hungry every day.

But the thing is, Brother Bo doesn't just communicate through magazines and books. He can outline a beautiful spiritual life through the Internet and text messages, and he figures a lot in conventions and prayer rallies.

He talks about the innate goodness in every person, including those facing court martial proceedings and those having a hard time explaining instant wealth and those dodging BIR dragnet.

Five essentials

To him, everything starts with changing beliefs about ourselves, about our country and about God Himself in the face of 26 million Filipinos going hungry.

Says he: "I basically want to connect faith with a very real expression for loving the poor and loving our country. I think our brand of Christianity is expressed solely in the ritual of praying, reading the Bible, attending prayer meetings, going to the novenas and asking stuff from God. It should not be. It should be expressed daily through what I believe to be the five essential elements of what a first-world Philippines would look like."

He cites moral integrity, social justice, economic prosperity, good governance and cultural identity.

On the whole, he wants faith in God to be expressed in those five things.

One can go into two directions confronted with what ails this country. "On one hand, one can say, what kind of God do we have to allow so much suffering among our people?," says Brother Bo.

"Or I could go into other directions and say, why am I blaming God when we have not done anything to solve the problem? We just thought about ourselves, we just thought of praying and we have not reached out. I think we have limited our love for the poor to charity, which is a terrible thing to do. If we look at the poor as strangers, we give charity. But if we look at the poor person as part of family, then I won't give charity. I will die for them doing something that will help them forever and not just for the day."

Now he is launching a TV special called "Tara Na Pinoy!" which he hopes would change people's beliefs about life, about people, about our country.

The show has an open market not confined to so-called Christians. It also has open arms for brother Muslims, Buddhists or any other religion for as long as they are Filipinos.

Brother Bo qualifies: "This is not a religious show. It is a spiritual show but it is so grounded. We will talk about money, sources of microfinancing and business. We will feature models of entrepreneurship and we will inspire people by showing them how others have done it. This is religion in action."

Sensitive question

But do religion and business mix?

It is a sensitive question that ultimately leads people to think that religious assemblies are actually big business and not so much about having faith in God or mankind.

But first, Brother Bo recalls his transition, his spiritual conversion at age 13 and how it changed his outlook towards the poor and marriage.

He recalls: "I was looking for something to live for. Young people right now seem to live lives of apathy, from video games to movies and malls and bars. We cannot just dismiss them and say they just want to have fun. I beg to disagree. I believe that in the hearts of many young people, they are looking for something to live and die for. They are looking for something to give their whole lives to. They will do it with fun but they will do it."

But what about faith and money?

From spiritual conversion at age 13, Brother Bo got married years later and realized his wife and children are his first mission.

"When I got married, I realized I had to earn to support a family. Then I saw the sacredness of business. I saw that business was not evil and it could do much good, although it could be used for bad things as well. Money is a wonderful thing if you make a decision that the goal of being rich should be to help others."

Beatification process for Pope John Paul II begins

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

WITH the announcement by Pope Benedict XVI on May 13, feast of Our Lady of Fatima, that the five-year waiting period for the beatification of Pope John Paul II would be waived, the process would begin soon.

The request for the waiver came from Cardinal Camillo Ruimi, vicar of the Diocese of Rome.

The announcement from the Pope was made at the Basilica of St. John Lateran during a meeting with priests. This is the first time that the five-year waiting period would be waived.

In the case of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta who died in 1997, Pope John Paul II shortened the waiting period by two years so the process began in 2000, or three years later. She was beatified in 2003.

When Pope John Paul II was buried on April 8, the crowd in St. Peter's Square chanted *"Santo Subito" or "sainthood now."*

Documents are now being collected and testimonies are being studied of miracles wrought by God through the intercession of John Paul II. A major miracle (or miracles) will push his beatification. A list of witnesses is being compiled to testify to the heroic virtues of the late Pope.

Pope Benedict XVI chose the feast of the Virgin of Fatima to make the announcement. John Paul II had a special devotion to the one he believed, as he acknowledged in his testament, intervened to save his life in a 1981 assassination attempt.

The Pope went to Fatima, Portugal after the incident to thank Our Lady for saving him.

Book on Fatima

Last May 13, Rosario "Charito" Melchor launched her book, "The Divine Conspiracy, A Testimony of Faith: The Unfolding of the Message of Our Lady of Fatima in Russia" at the Villa San Miguel.

According to Jaime Cardinal Sin, "This book is really a testimony and a testament...for future generations."

Mrs. Melchor, whose husband Alex was Philippine ambassador to the Soviet Union, was witness to the unfolding of Our Lady of Fatima's message saying Russia would be converted, if we prayed.

Ambassador Howard Q. Dee says, "This book allows the reader... a glimpse (of) the handiwork of Divine Providence as it guides the destiny of nations... (It) relives the drama that was foretold with great love by Our Lady of Fatima in 1917 culminating on Christmas Day 1991 when the red 'hammer and sickle' flag of Soviet Russia was permanently brought down in the Kremlin."

Mrs. Melchor said she wrote the book to inspire readers to be more devoted to Our Lady. The book is available at National Bookstore.

Fr. Peyton's anniversary

The Family Rosary Crusade will hold Memorial Masses on June 3, to commemorate the 13th death anniversary of Servant of God Patrick Peyton who passed away in 1992 at the convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor in San Pedro, California. Fr. Peyton was 83. His mission, teaching people that the "family that prays together, stays together," lives on in 15 countries.

Masses will be at 5:45 p.m., Greenbelt Chapel; 6 p.m., Sta. Maria Goretti Church at Pius XII Catholic Center; and 6 p.m., Our Lady of Beautiful Love Parish, Merville Park, Parañaque.

The cause for canonization of Fr. Peyton was opened in 2001. Those who experienced miracles through his intercession can write Family Rosary Crusade office, Pius XII Catholic Center, Paco, Manila or call 5242779.

Sacred Heart novena

The feast of the Sacred Heart, which falls on the First Friday after Corpus Christi Sunday, will be celebrated on June 3. A nine-day novena of Masses will be held May 25-June 2. At the National Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Dao St., Makati, the novena is at 12 noon and 6 p.m. daily. Feast day Masses on June 3 are: 6 a.m., 6:30 a.m., 7 a.m. and 8 a.m.

Most Rev. Bernardino Cortez will say Mass at 12:15 p.m. June 3, followed by Masses at 1:30, 3, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales will say Mass at 6 p.m. Procession follows.

Talks on the Sacred Heart will be held at 7 p.m. May 27 with Bishop Teodoro Bacani as speaker; 6-9 p.m., June 1, by the Alliance of the Holy Family International; and 9:30 a.m.-12 noon, June 2, by Fr. Danny Huang, SJ.

FR. COLUMBANO Adag, OSB (center), with the Rev. Prior, Alderich Staub, OSB (second from right), of the Abbey of Uznach, Switzerland, and some of the Benedictine monks of Malaybalay, Digos and Manila, including Dom Martin de Jesus (second from left)

Holy Trinity parish

The Holy Trinity Parish in San Nicolas, Bacoor, Cavite will celebrate its fiesta on May 22 with a High Mass at 8:30 a.m. by Bishop Chito Tagle. The altar table donated by Gregorio and Viring Gawaran will be blessed. The traditional procession follows after the 5 p.m. Mass. Our Lady of Mercy is enshrined in the church. Fr. Boyet Santiago is parish priest.

Monk marks 50 years

I came to know so much about the Monastery of the Transfiguration in Barangay San Jose, Malaybalay, Bukidnon when my friend Gang Gomez, a famous fashion designer, joined the community in 1991.

I also met Fr. Columbano Adag, OSB, who marked recently 50 years as a Benedictine monk and 40 years as a priest. I was very impressed with his energy when I visited the monastery two years ago. I was also inspired by the holy life of the monks through prayer and work.

Now that I myself am trying to tread the spiritual path by daily Masses and a prayer discipline, I am beginning to understand how Fr. Columbano, was able to live 50 years as a monk, 40 of them as a priest.

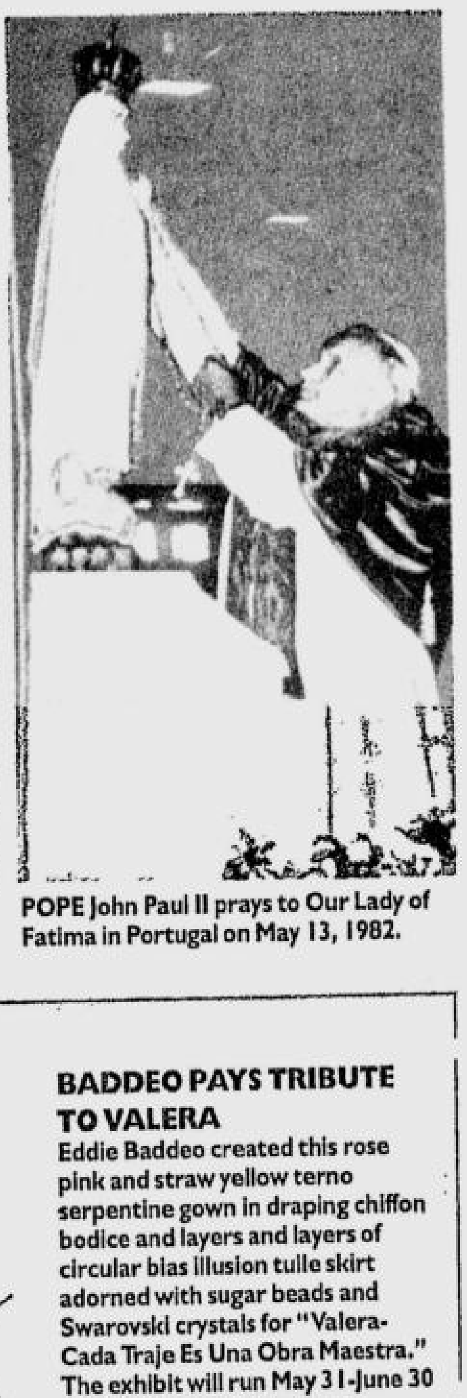
My friend Gang Gomez or Dom Martin de Jesus, OSB, is now perpetually professed. There are 13 professed monks, including aspirants and novices, living in the monastery.

Giving the monastery support were the 1,200 guests who came for Fr. Columbano's golden anniversary, including Fr. Alderich Staub, OSB, prior of the abbey of Uznach, Switzerland.

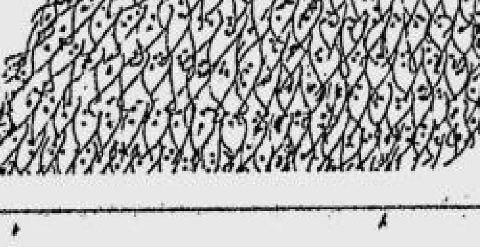
Sta. Rita de Cascia

My friend, Oskar Peralta, will decorate the *carroza* of Sta. Rita de Cascia for the procession today after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at San Agustin Church. Oskar has been doing this since 1970 when Sta. Rita helped him solve a problem.

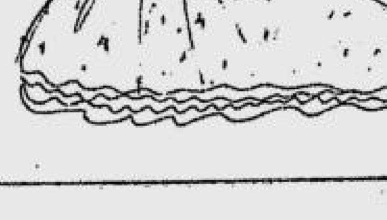
Happy feast day, Sta. Rita de Cascia.



POPE John Paul II prays to Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal on May 13, 1982.

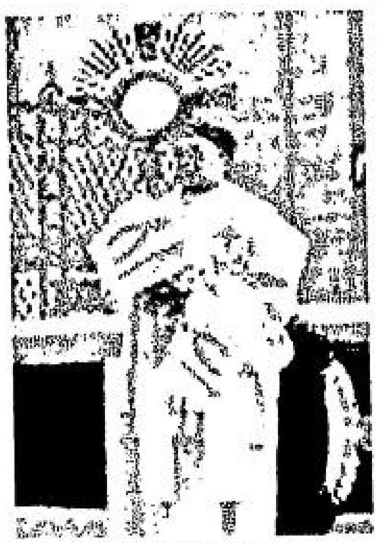


FLORES DE MANILA
Donna Kristina Argana Shaw, daughter of Thea Argana Shaw and niece of Marife Argana Espeleta, is this year's Flores de Manila of San Pedro Santacruzan in Laguna on May 29. The procession will start at San Pedro Apostol Church. Abigail Cataquiz and Raymond Orellana stand as hermana and hermano mayores of the event. Donna Kristine will wear a monochromatic blue gown in chiffon and Swiss lace material, with fully beaded one-sided terno top bodice and beaded petals ballskirt, designed and executed by couturier Eddie Baddeo.



BADDEO PAYS TRIBUTE TO VALERA
Eddie Baddeo created this rose pink and straw yellow terno serpentine gown in draping chiffon bodice and layers and layers of circular bias illusion tulle skirt adorned with sugar beads and Swarovski crystals for "Valera-Cada Traje Es Una Obra Maestra." The exhibit will run May 31-June 30 at the Museum of the Filipino People, featuring Valera-inspired ternos done by 30 top fashion designers.

Church marks Corpus Christi feast



PRIEST raises the Blessed Sacrament.

THE FEAST of the Corpus Christi (or the Body and Blood of Christ) is unique and yet central to the faith of Catholics. It asserts their belief in the presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the Eucharist they receive at Holy Communion.

This year the feast falls on May 29, and its celebration takes on double significance because the Catholic Church celebrates from October 2004 to October 2005 the Year of the Eucharist, while the Philippine Church marks it as the National Eucharistic and Marian Year.

The Archdiocese of Manila celebrates the feast with several activities, highlighted by the traditional Corpus Christi procession to be led by Manila Archbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales on the eve of the feast on May 28.

The activities, which will be held at the Our Lady of the Pillar Church in Sta. Cruz, Manila, include the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 1:30 p.m. followed by the conference on the Eucharist with speakers Bishop Teodoro C. Bacani and Ambassador Henrietta T. de Villa. Archbishop Rosales will preside at the Mass (anticipated) for the Solemnity of the Corpus Christi at 5 p.m. The procession follows the Mass and will wind its way through streets leading to the Manila Cathedral where an overnight vigil for the Blessed Sacrament will be held. Archbishop Rosales will once again preside at the Mass on the feast day proper on May 29 at 7 a.m. at the Manila Cathedral.

The feast of the Corpus Christi was instituted by the Catholic Church in the 13th century by Bishop Robert de Thorte of Liege (Belgium) at the suggestion of the Belgian nun St. Juliana of Mont Carvillon, who, since she was 16, often had a vision during her prayers of a full moon in brilliant light, while a part of its disc remained black. Christ told her the meaning of this vision. The moon represented the liturgical year; the black spot indicated the lack of a festival in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. She was to tell the Church hierarchy that God wished the establishment of such a feast.

In the 14th century, the custom developed of carrying the Blessed Sacrament in a splendid procession through the town after the Mass on the feast of Corpus Christi. The popes encouraged this; they granted special indulgences to all who would participate in the celebration. The Council of Trent (1545-1563) solemnly approved and recommended the procession on Corpus Christi as a public profession of the Catholic faith in the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

Pope Benedict XVI has himself encouraged a special celebration of the feast this year as was the wish of his predecessor John Paul II. In his Apostolic Letter for the Year of the Eucharist, "Mane nobiscum Domine" ("Stay with us Lord"), John Paul II encouraged the whole Church to "celebrate with particular devotion the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, with its traditional procession. Our faith in the God who took flesh in order to become our companion along the way needs to be everywhere proclaimed, especially in our streets and homes, as an expression of our grateful love and as an inexhaustible source of blessings."

For his part, Pope Benedict said, "In this year, therefore, the solemnity of Corpus Christi must be celebrated with particular prominence" and reminded everyone "to intensify over the next months their love and devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist and to express in a courageous and clear way their faith in the Lord's real presence, above all through the solemnity and correctness of the celebrations."

For schedule of vigil and full text of Holy Hour Prayers for the vigil, visit the website of the Archdiocese of Manila, www.rcam.org

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Do old cars go to heaven?

From page H1

One Sunday, while everyone was out, two thieves tied the Pontiac parked in front of the bakery with a rope to the bumper of their jeep and hauled it away. The sole witness was a new housegirl who was threatened with rape if she screamed. Crying, the maid watched from the window as the car was towed away.

"I have reported the theft in several police stations," said the baker. "I even offered a reward. But no one seems to care."

Since the car would, by that time, be 27 years old, the much-loved Pontiac, I am sure, has been laid to rest.

If it was a fervent Catholic, like my mother, heaven was surely its destiny. But if it was Buddhist and had been sold by the carnapper for scrap, por kilo, it has probably been melted down in some steel mill and is now reincarnated as a cheerful sewer pipe running down the length of Quezon Avenue.

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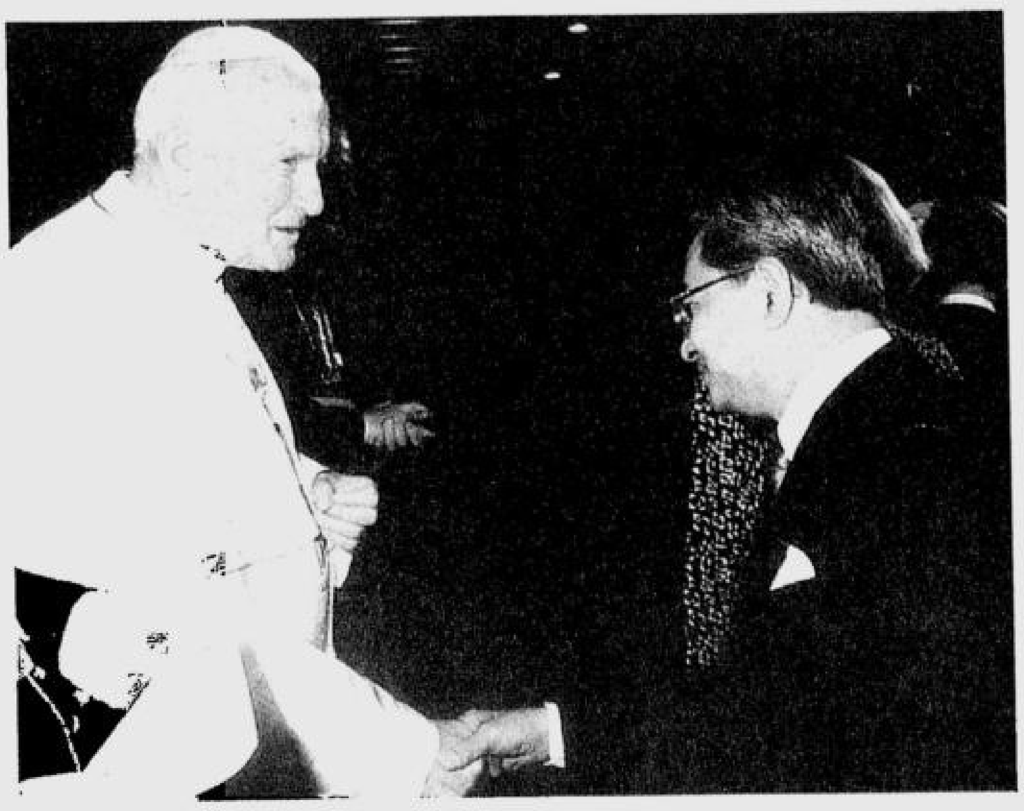
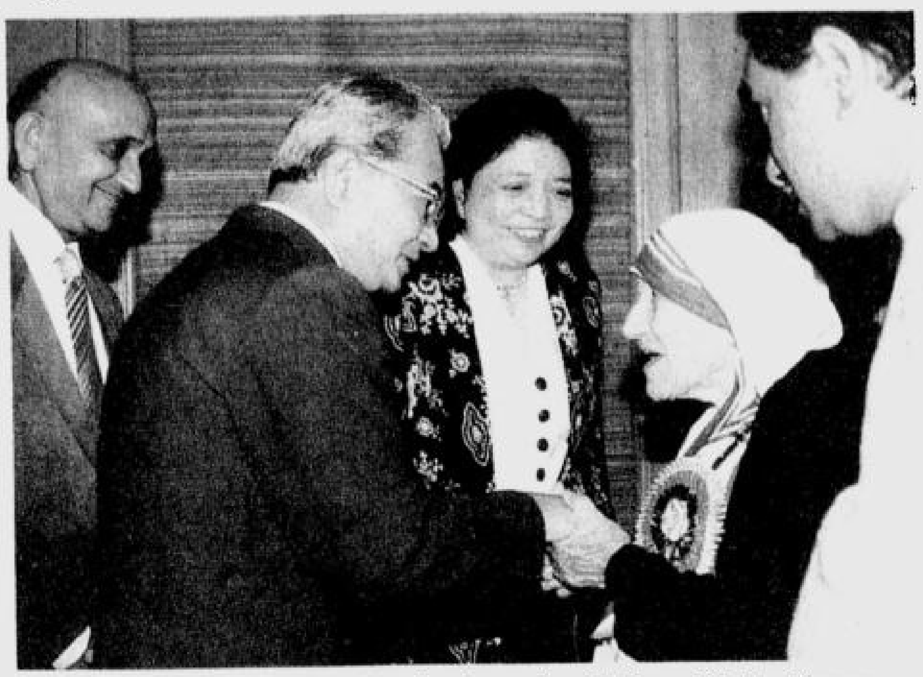

AMBASSADOR Juanito Jarasa greets Pope John Paul II at the meeting between His Holiness and the diplomatic corps in Budapest, Hungary, on Aug. 17, 1991.


AMBASSADOR Jarasa and his wife talk animatedly with Blessed Mother Theresa during their meeting in New Delhi, India, on Nov. 17, 1995.

Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa were dear friends and kindred spirits. Their concern for the sacredness of God-given human life was unparalleled

A diplomat's saintly encounters

By Juanito P. Jarasa
Contributor

THE PUBLISHER of a Manila business newspaper, after visiting Budapest and Rome in 1991, wrote in his regular column about the loneliness and travails of the Filipino diplomats he met in the two cities under the thought-provoking title, "Why be an Ambassador?"

The simple answer is personal choice. We shall be what we want to be. Those of us who have reached the position of ambassador through a long and sometimes excruciating process consider the loneliness, difficulties and challenges of foreign assignments as part and parcel of the career we have pursued. Being a diplomat was our own preference for rendering service to our country and people.

I retired from the service in June 2003 after serving our government for 40 years. It is said that nostalgia or reminiscences constitute the kingdom of the retired. As I sit back and recollect the past and vignettes of my diplomatic experiences, I cannot help but feel a deep sense of personal gratification.

During the course of my career in the foreign service, I had the pleasure and privilege of meeting dignitaries and notable personalities. Foremost among them, were presidents, prime ministers and four Nobel Peace Prize laureates (Mother Teresa, South Korean President Kim Dae-Jung, East Timor Foreign Minister Jose Ramos Horta and US President Jimmy Carter).

Personally, the spiritual upliftment I felt when I met Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa would remain unmatched. The meeting happened while I was serving as ambassador to Hungary and India, respectively.

Aside from interacting with notable persons, another satisfying aspect of a foreign assignment is being there when something momentous occurs in the country or region of assignment.

I arrived in Budapest in the autumn of 1989 just before the collapse of communism in Hungary. This was immediately followed by the Velvet Revolution, Czechoslovakia's version of People Power; the violent ouster of the Ceaucescus in Romania, the political change in Bulgaria, and the subsequent disintegration of Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union. Since they happened during my watch, I think I could rightfully claim that I was an eyewitness to the unfolding of history.

The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe was considered as one of the biggest events of the 20th century, ranking side by side with the Russian revolution in 1917 and the Chinese revolution in 1949.

The domino-like demise of communism in Eastern Europe had been attributed to the stirrings made by Pope John Paul II in his native Poland. It was also influenced by the *glasnost* (openness) and *perestroika* (restructuring) policies of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

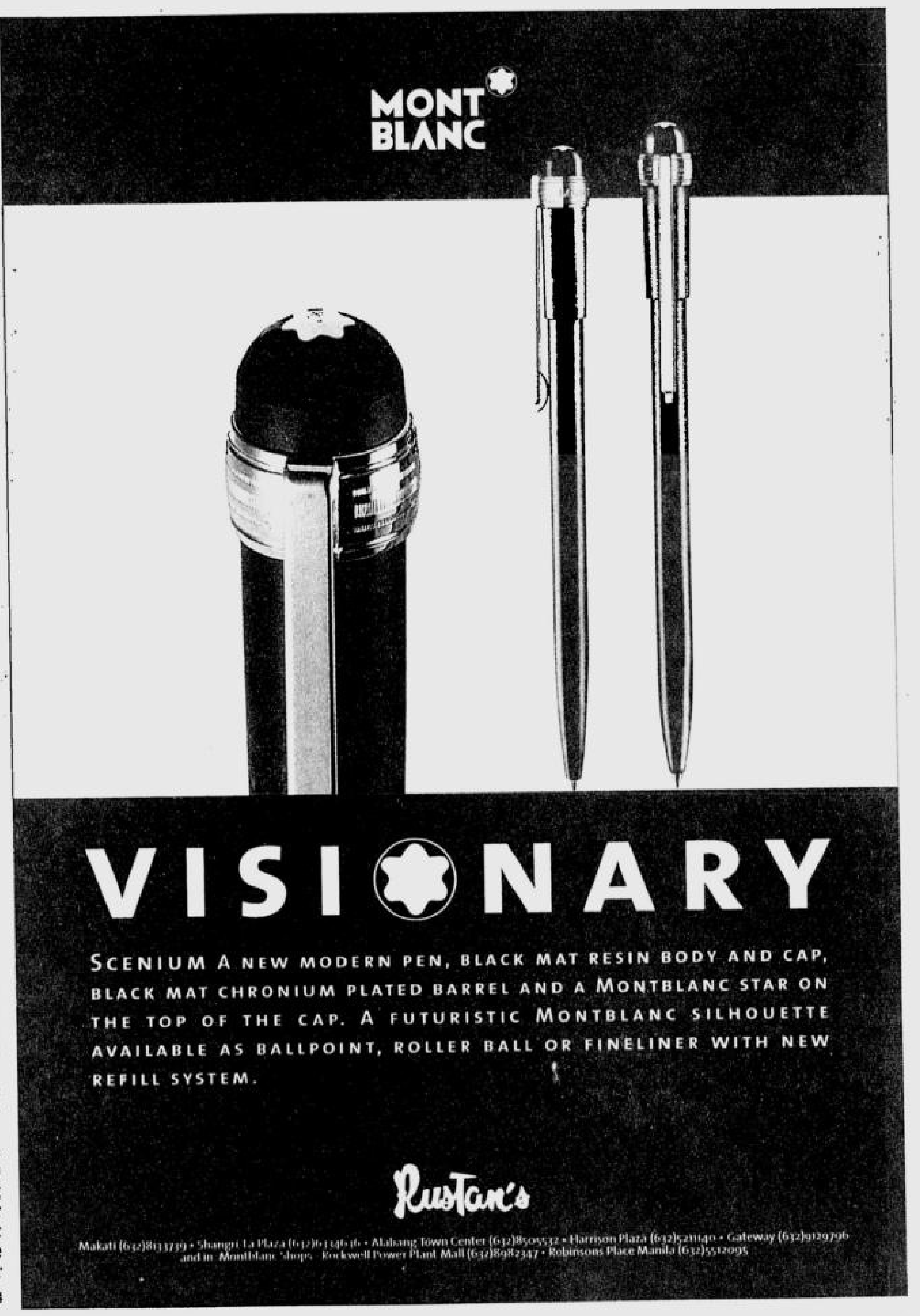
Soon after discarding the vestiges of communism and proclaiming itself a republic in October 1989, Hungary, in December of the same year, sent a delegation to the Vatican to hold talks for the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Hungary and the Holy See.

Later, to show that it was a predominantly Roman Catholic country, Hungary recognized the newly accredited apostolic nuncio as the dean of the diplomatic corps in Budapest.

A subjugated nation for a long period in its history, Hungary was already a full-fledged democracy when it grandly received Pope John Paul II for a five-day visit in August 1991. On Aug. 17, the Apostolic Nuncio hosted a meeting between His Holiness and the diplomatic corps at the new Apostolic Nunciature in Budapest.

"My beloved Philippines." These were the words uttered by the Pope when the Nuncio introduced me to His Holiness. While shaking his hand, I could only say, "We need your prayer and blessings in the Philippines." It was not possible to say anything more since each ambassador and his wife must have their

A DIPLOMAT'S/I4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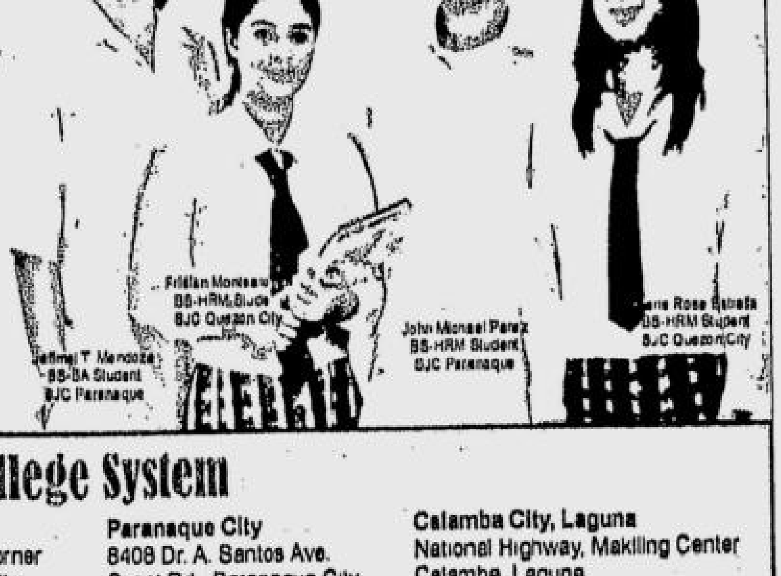
Jeffrey T. Mendoza
BS-BA Student
SJC Parañaque

Fridlan Montealto
BS-HRM Student
SJC Quezon City

John Michael Perez
BS-HRM Student
SJC Parañaque

Rose Estrella
BS-HRM Student
SJC Quezon City

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INQUIRER COMICS Sunday

MAY 22, 2005

1

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RAGNAROK

BY ROBERT WONG

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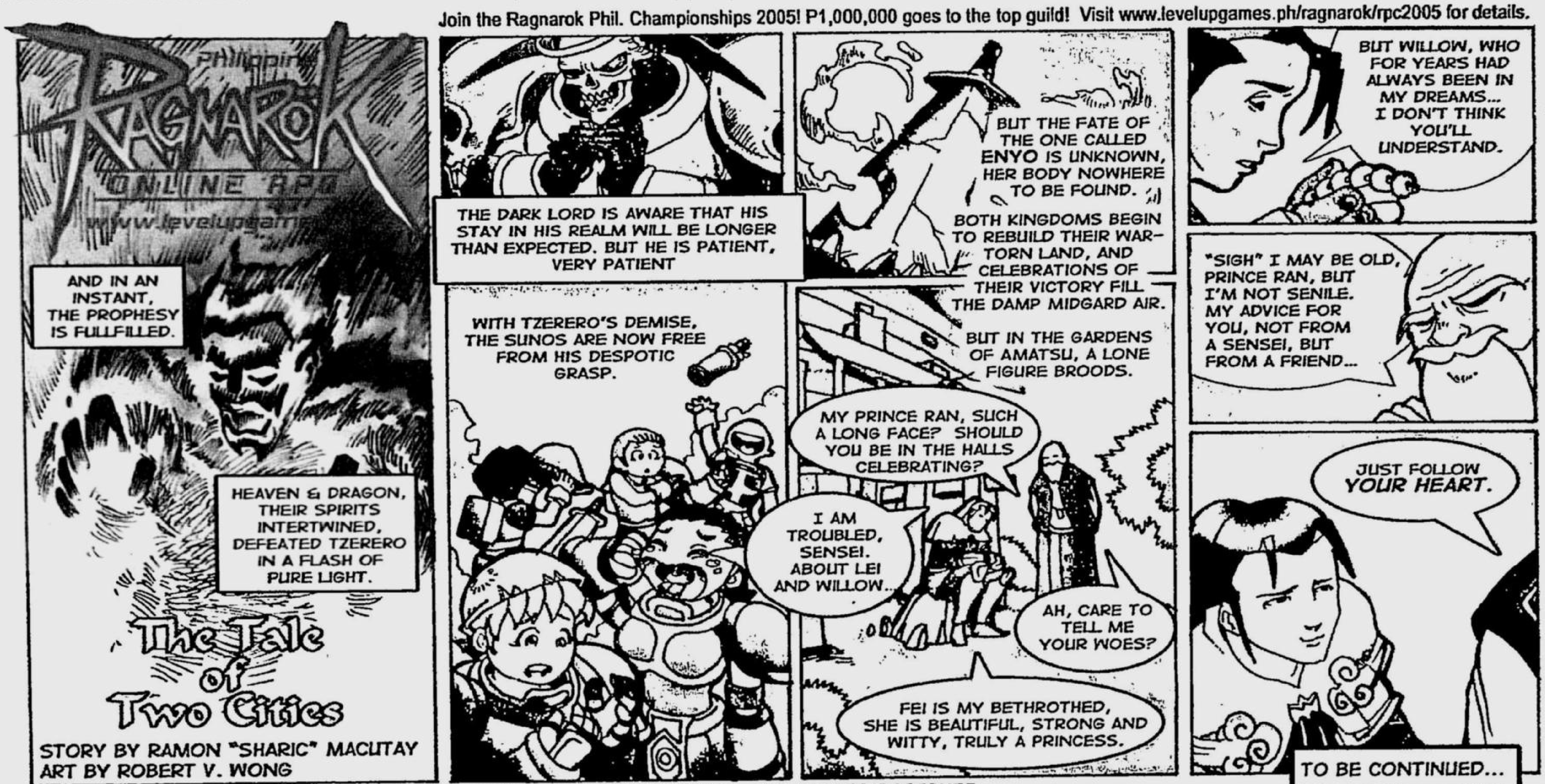
Philippine Ragnarok Online RPG
www.levelupgam
AND IN AN INSTANT, THE PROPHESY IS FULLFILLED.
HEAVEN & DRAGON, THEIR SPIRITS INTERTWINED, DEFEATED TZERERO IN A FLASH OF PURE LIGHT.
The Tale of Two Cities
STORY BY RAMON "SHARIC" MACUTAY
ART BY ROBERT V. WONG
THE DARK LORD IS AWARE THAT HIS STAY IN HIS REALM WILL BE LONGER THAN EXPECTED. BUT HE IS PATIENT, VERY PATIENT
WITH TZERERO'S DEMISE, THE SUNOS ARE NOW FREE FROM HIS DESPOTIC GRASP.
BUT THE FATE OF THE ONE CALLED ENYO IS UNKNOWN, HER BODY NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.
BOTH KINGDOMS BEGIN TO REBUILD THEIR WAR-TORN LAND, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THEIR VICTORY FILL THE DAMP MIDGARD AIR.
BUT IN THE GARDENS OF AMATSU, A LONE FIGURE BROODS.
MY PRINCE RAN, SUCH A LONG FACE? SHOULD YOU BE IN THE HALLS CELEBRATING?
I AM TROUBLED, SENSEI. ABOUT LEI AND WILLOW...
AH, CARE TO TELL ME YOUR WOES?
FEI IS MY BETHROTHED, SHE IS BEAUTIFUL, STRONG AND WITTY, TRULY A PRINCESS.
BUT WILLOW, WHO FOR YEARS HAD ALWAYS BEEN IN MY DREAMS... I DON'T THINK YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.
"SIGH" I MAY BE OLD, PRINCE RAN, BUT I'M NOT SENILE. MY ADVICE FOR YOU, NOT FROM A SENSEI, BUT FROM A FRIEND...
JUST FOLLOW YOUR HEART.
TO BE CONTINUED...

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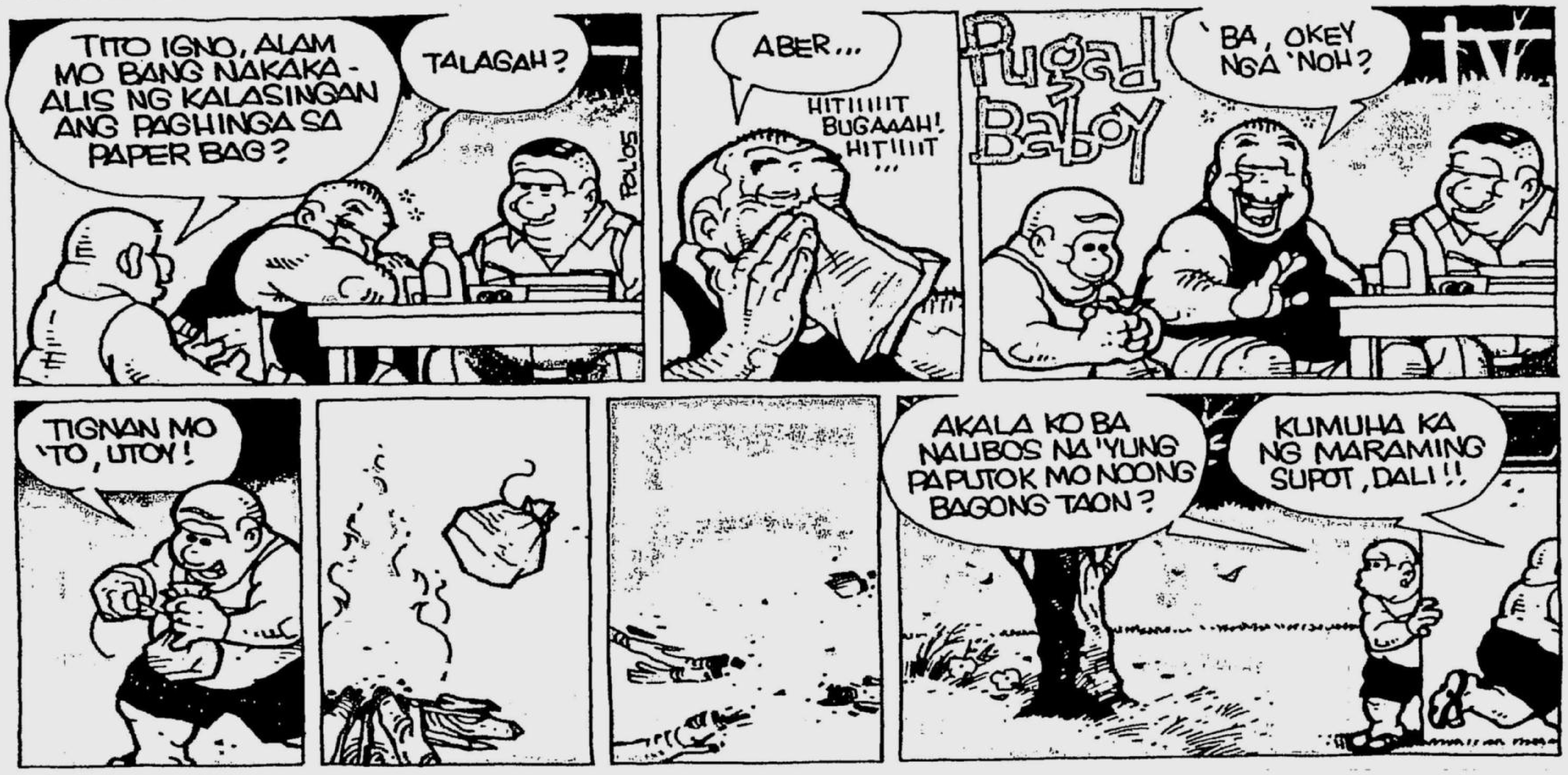
PUGAD BABOY

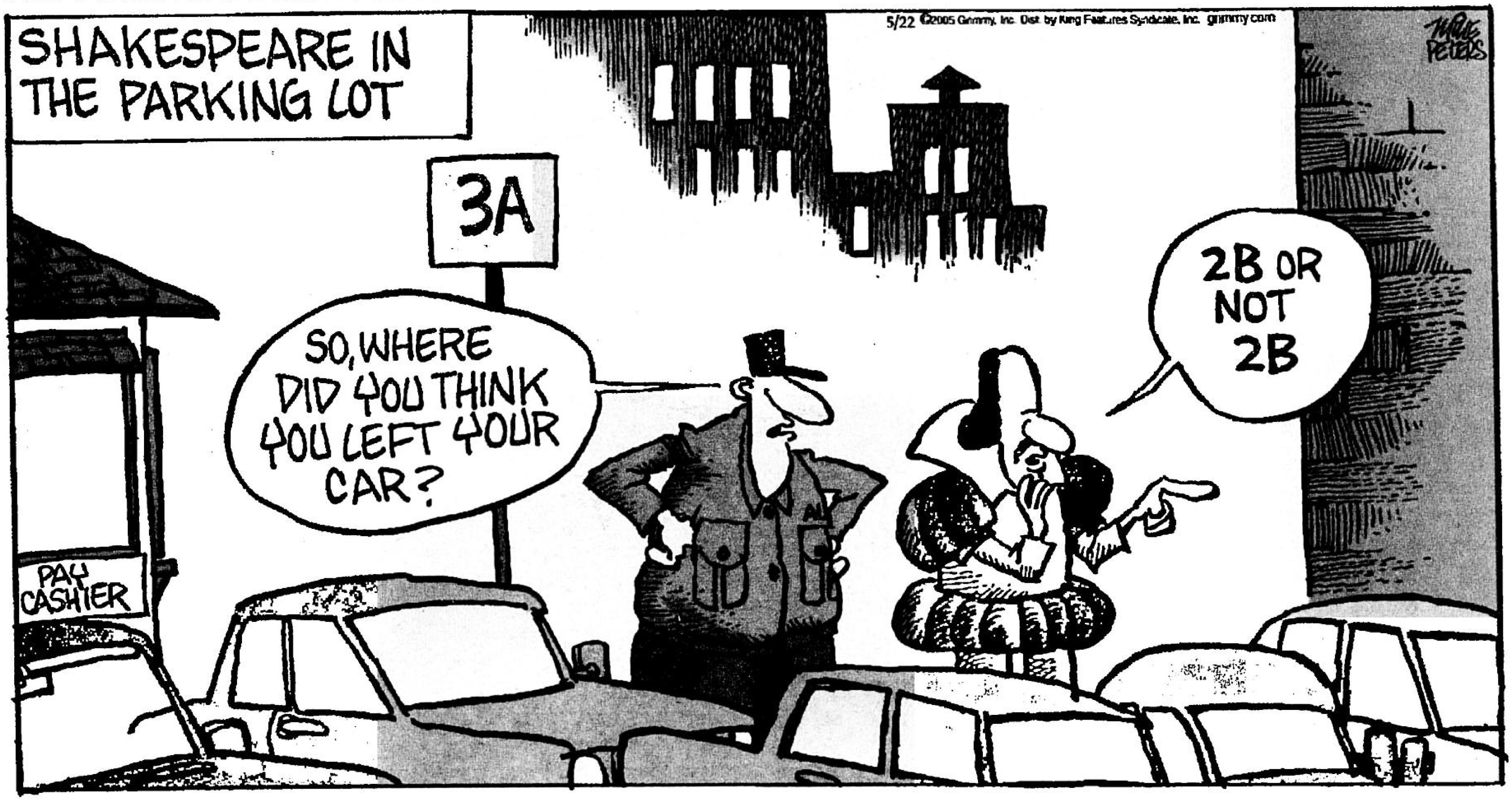
BY POL MEDINA JR.


TITO IGNO, ALAM MO BANG NAKAKA-ALIS NG KALASINGAN ANG PAGHINGA SA PAPER BAG?
TALAGAH?
POL'05
ABER...
HIT!!!!!T BUGAAAH! HIT!!!!!T ...
Pugad Baboy
`BA, OKEY NGA 'NOH?
TIGNAN MO 'TO, UTOY!
AKALA KO BA NAUBOS NA 'YUNG PAPUTOK MO NOONG BAGONG TAON?
KUMUHA KA NG MARAMING SUPOT, DALI!!

FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDGARD

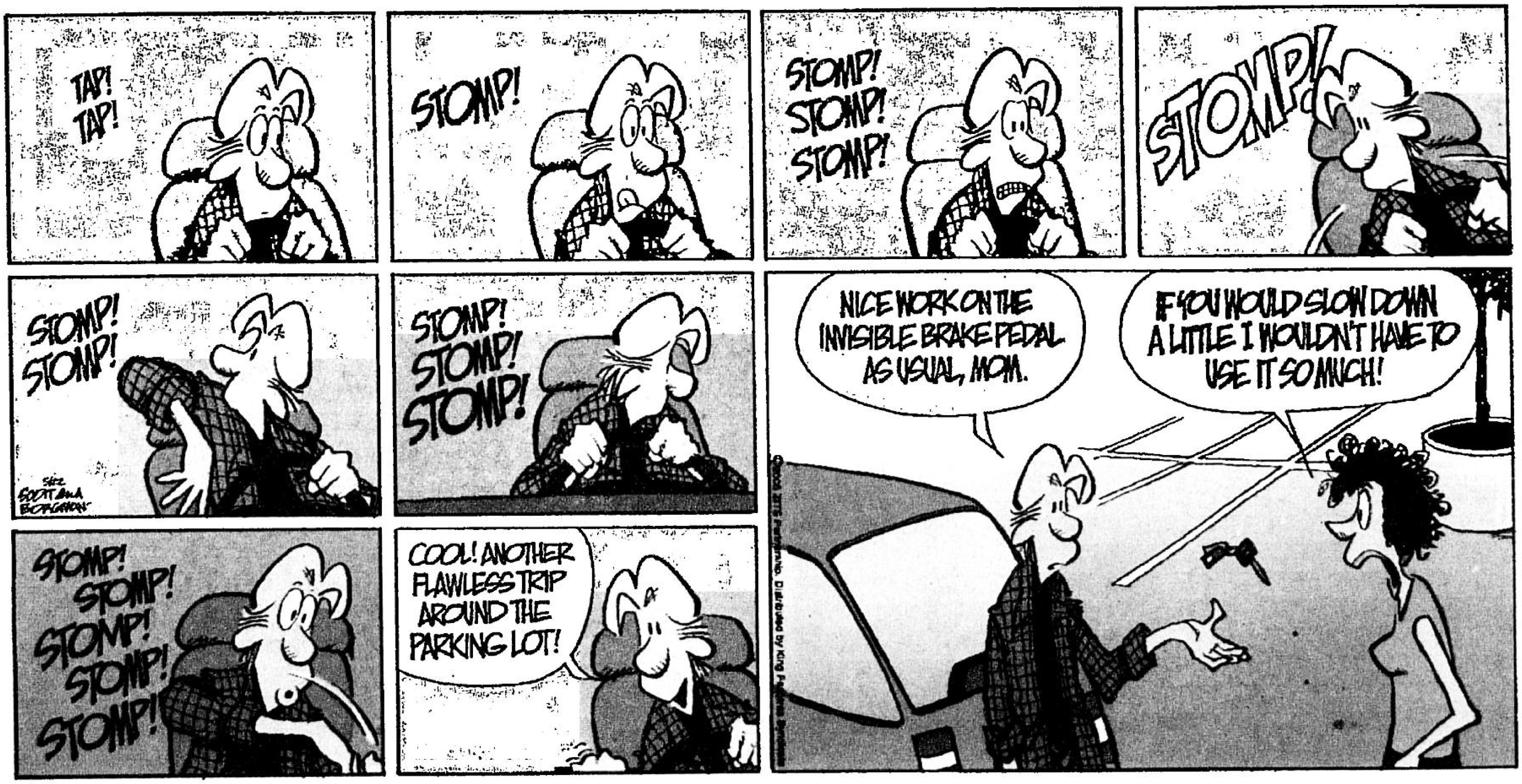
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKING LOT
5/22 ©2005 Grimmy, Inc. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc. grimmy.com
MIKE PETERS
3A
PAY CASHIER
SO, WHERE DID YOU THINK YOU LEFT YOUR CAR?
2B OR NOT 2B

ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


TAP! TAP!
STOMP!
STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!
STOMP!
STOMP! STOMP!
SCOTT and BORGMAN
STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!
STOMP! STOMP! STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!
COOL! ANOTHER FLAWLESS TRIP AROUND THE PARKING LOT!
NICE WORK ON THE INVISIBLE BRAKE PEDAL AS USUAL, MOM.
IF YOU WOULD SLOW DOWN A LITTLE I WOULDN'T HAVE TO USE IT SO MUCH!
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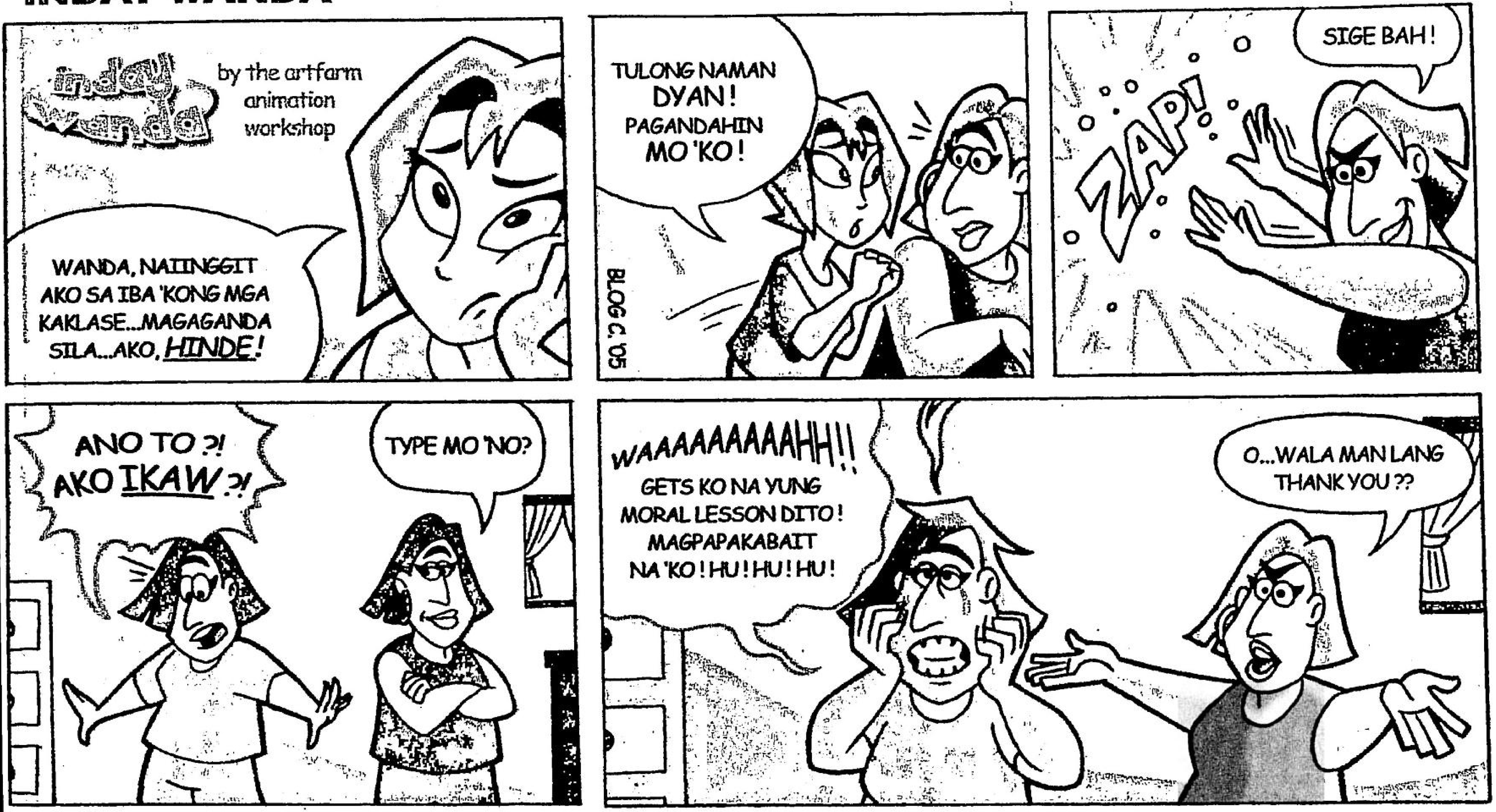
INDAY WANDA

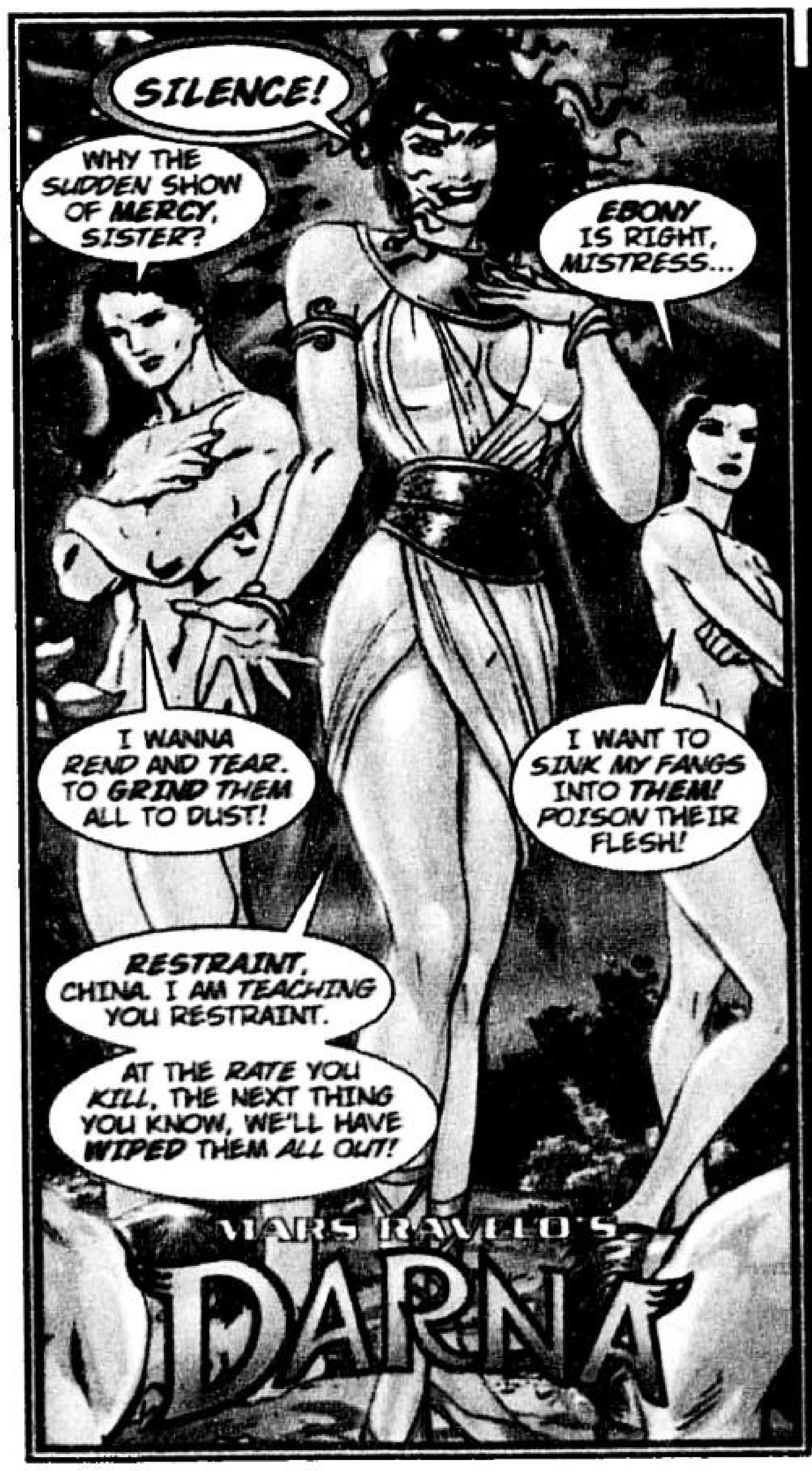
BY BLOG CALIGUIA

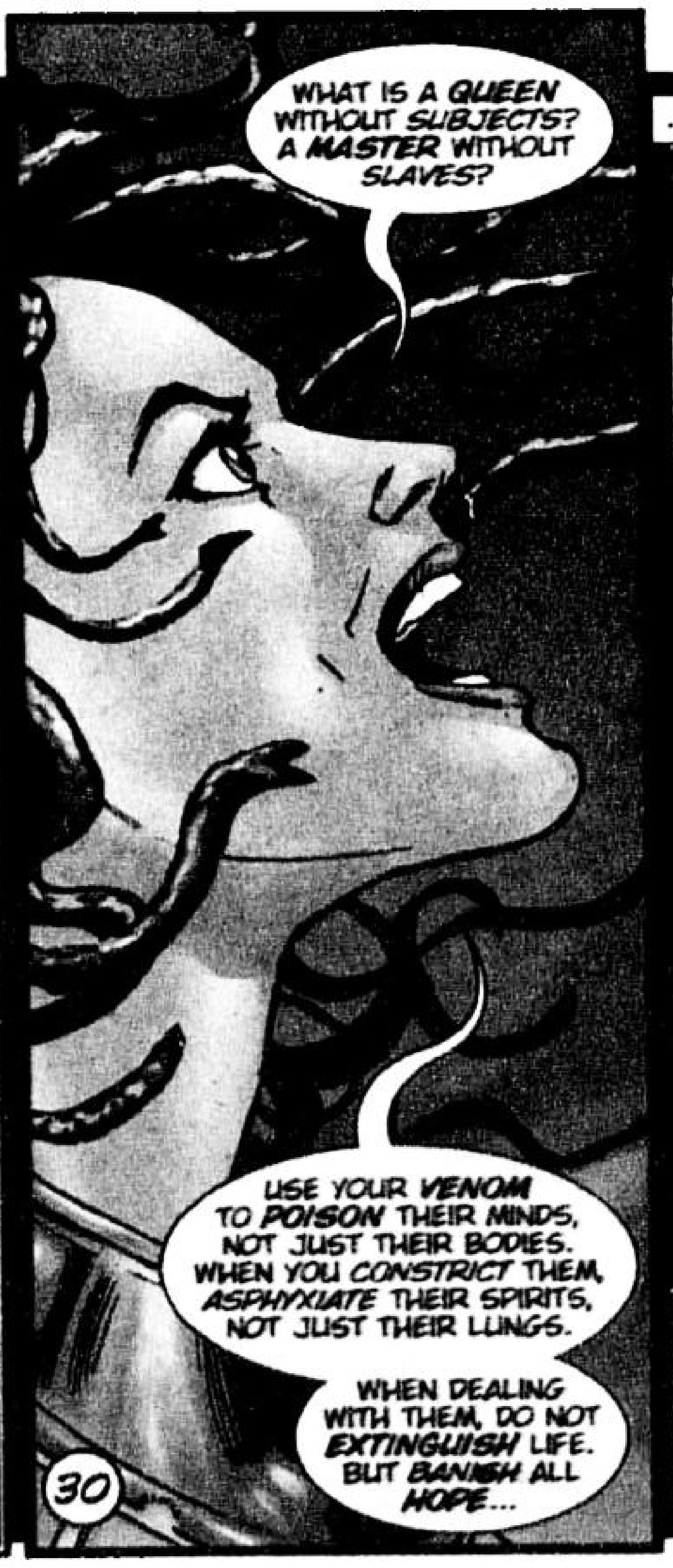

inday wanda
by the artfarm animation workshop
WANDA, NAIINGGIT AKO SA IBA 'KONG MGA KAKLASE...MAGAGANDA SILA...AKO, HINDE!
BLOG C. '05
TULONG NAMAN DYAN! PAGANDAHIN MO 'KO!
SIGE BAH!
ZAP!
ANO TO ?! AKO IKAW ?!
TYPE MO 'NO?
WAAAAAAAAAHH!! GETS KO NA YUNG MORAL LESSON DITO! MAGPAPAKABAIT NA 'KO! HU! HU! HU!
O...WALA MAN LANG THANK YOU ??

A. FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

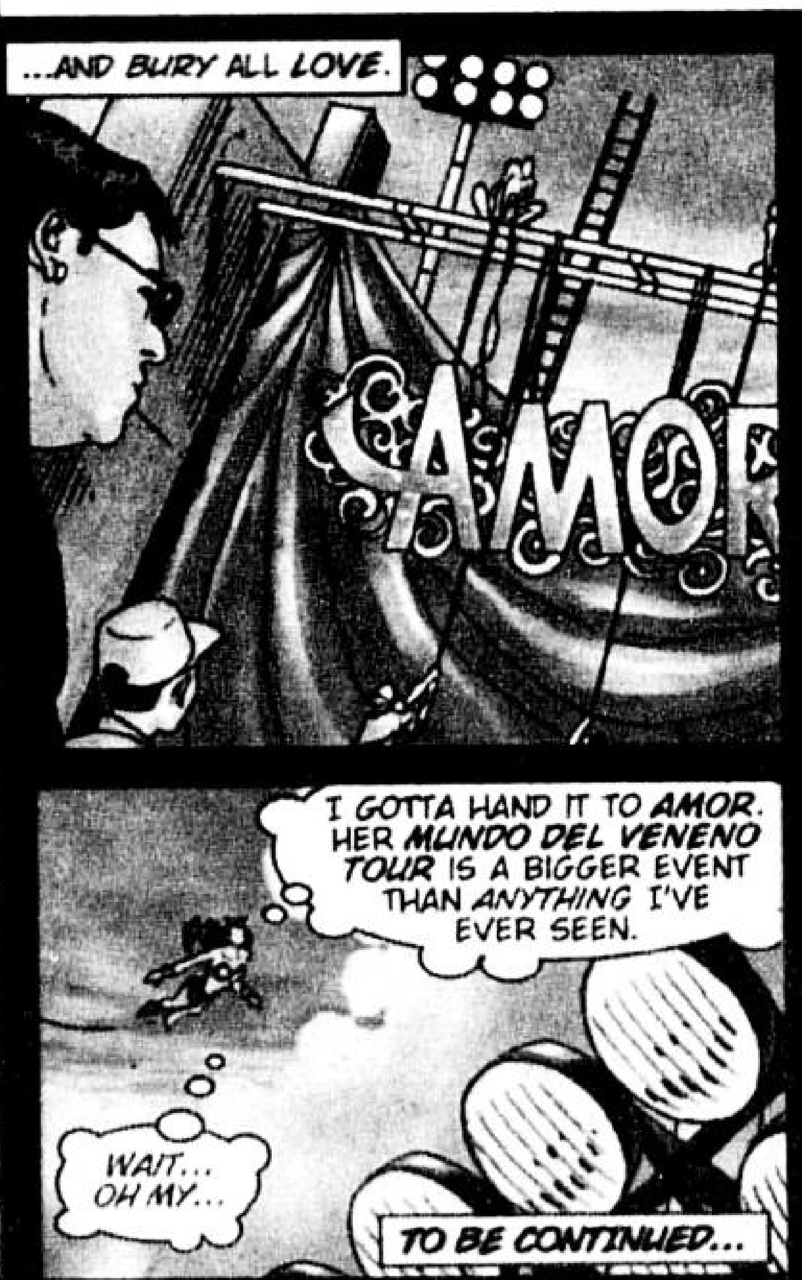
DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


SILENCE!
WHY THE SUDDEN SHOW OF MERCY, SISTER?
EBONY IS RIGHT, MISTRESS...
I WANNA REND AND TEAR. TO GRIND THEM ALL TO DUST!
I WANT TO SINK MY FANGS INTO THEM! POISON THEIR FLESH!
RESTRAINT, CHINA. I AM TEACHING YOU RESTRAINT.
AT THE RATE YOU KILL, THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, WE'LL HAVE WIPED THEM ALL OUT!
MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA


WHAT IS A QUEEN WITHOUT SUBJECTS? A MASTER WITHOUT SLAVES?
USE YOUR VENOM TO POISON THEIR MINDS, NOT JUST THEIR BODIES. WHEN YOU CONSTRICT THEM, ASPHYXIATE THEIR SPIRITS, NOT JUST THEIR LUNGS.
WHEN DEALING WITH THEM, DO NOT EXTINGUISH LIFE. BUT BANISH ALL HOPE...
30

YONZON • MEDINA • MONSANTO


...AND BURY ALL LOVE.
AMOR
I GOTTA HAND IT TO AMOR. HER MUNDO DEL VENENO TOUR IS A BIGGER EVENT THAN ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN.
WAIT... OH MY...
TO BE CONTINUED...

FROM THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARDEE
DARNA BY MANGO COMICS

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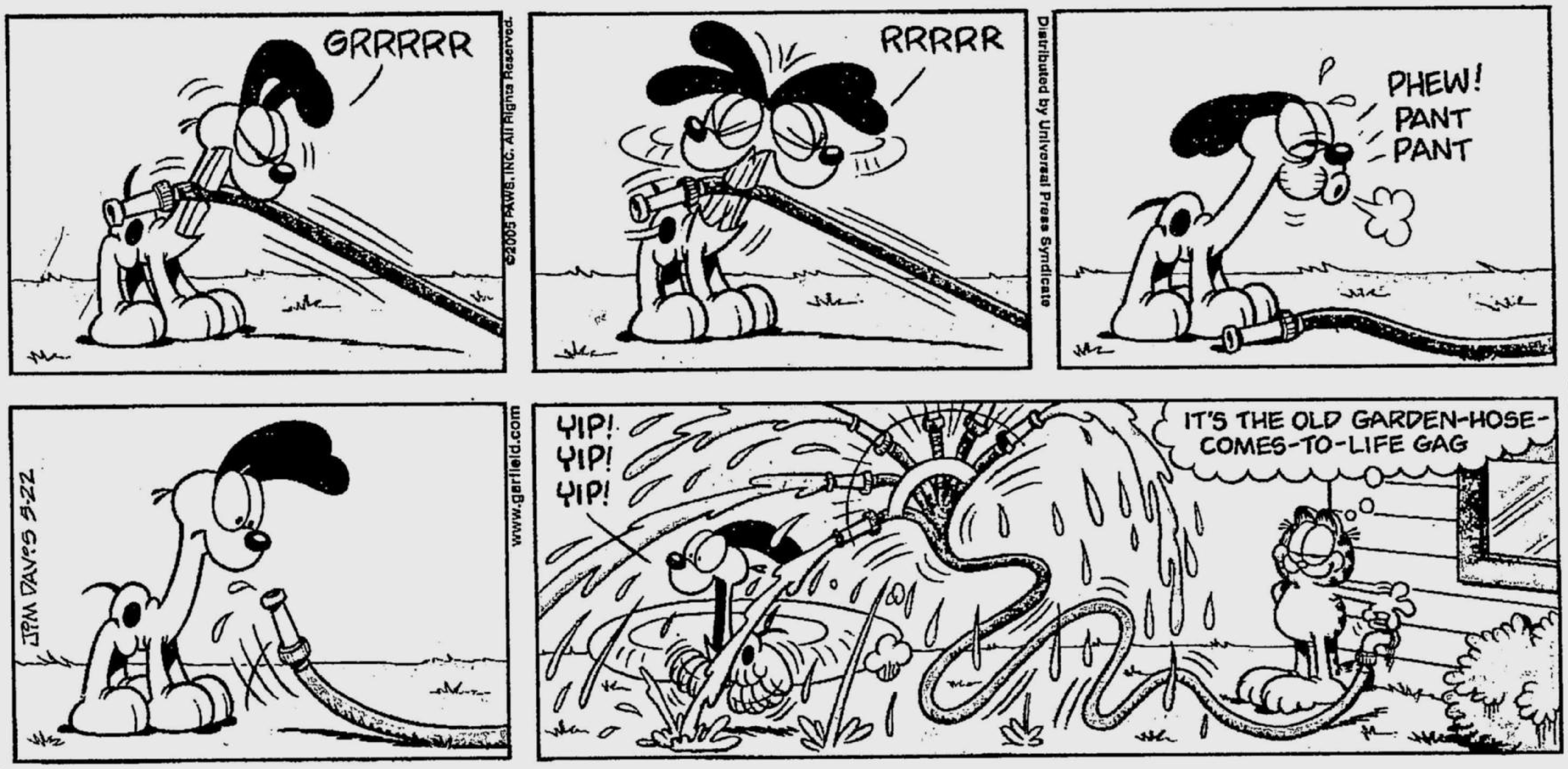
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


GRRRRR
RRRRR
PHEW! PANT PANT
YIP! YIP! YIP!
IT'S THE OLD GARDEN-HOSE-COMES-TO-LIFE GAG
JIM DAVIS 5-22

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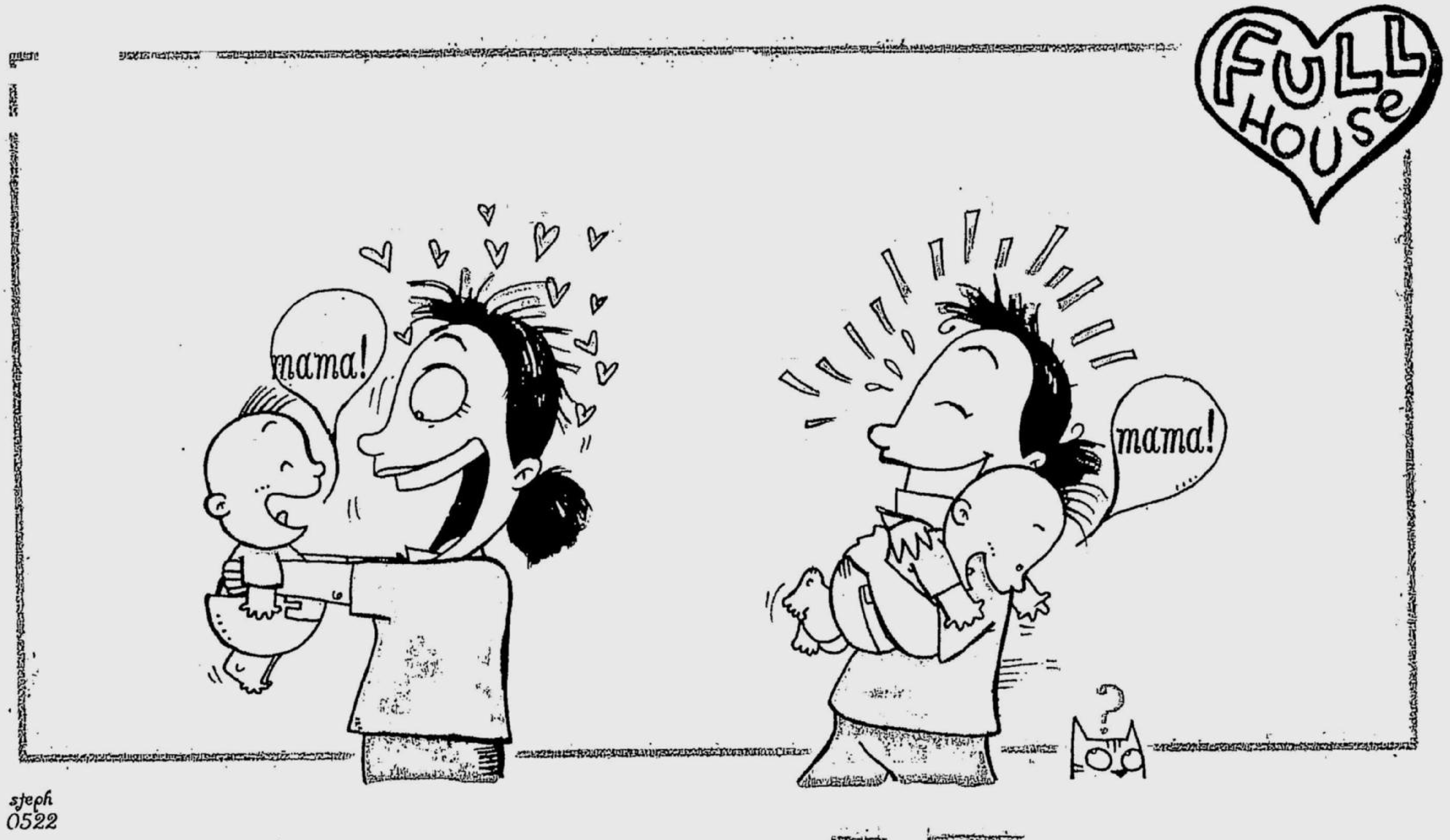
FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


FULL HOUSE
mama!
mama!
?
steph 0522

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

A diplomat's saintly encounters

From page 11

turn to greet the Holy Father. He delivered before us a 25-minute address in French.

Each ambassador was given a golden commemorative medallion with the beautifully carved Pope's visage and the words *Ioannes Paulus II—Pontifex Maximus* (John Paul II—Supreme Pontiff) on its face. On the flip side is the image of St. Stephen, Hungary's founder-king, with the inscription *Hungariam Visit XVI-XX Augusti MCMXCI*. The diplomatic ladies each got a rosary with the papal insignia on the plastic case. Somehow, I was able to get one for my wife Angie who was in Manila at the time. I also got a greeting card of the Pope with his picture and signature on it. To top it all, I received days later from the Nuncio my picture with the Holy Father.

On the last day of the visit, I attended Mass in honor of His Holiness at the Heroes' Square in Budapest. The diplomats in attendance were seated right in front of the altar. The Pope impressed me as a holy man with an undefinable aura and charisma.

From Budapest, I was transferred to New Delhi, India, where our social consciousness was aroused as never before. Angie and I chose Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity and the untouchables, the lowest caste in India's social class, as the beneficiaries of the funds raised by the Embassy's participation in the International Food, Wine and Beer Festival held at the Australian High Commission compound in New Delhi in January 1995.

Out of the proceeds, we donated 10 sewing machines to the female vocational trainees of Sulabh International and set aside 43,350 Indian rupees ($1,275) for Mother Teresa's cause.

In March 1995, during our official visit to Calcutta, Angie and I, in the company of our honorary consul and his wife, paid a visit to the Missionaries of Charity to hand over our donation.

Mother Teresa was not in town but her assistant, Sister M. Frederick, received the donation on her behalf. Sister Frederick asked one of the sisters to give us a guided tour of the orphanage.

What we saw melted our heart. There were malnourished, abandoned infants, sick, deformed and dying adults—people whom the "Saint of the Gutters" had aptly described in her 1979 Nobel Peace Prize address as the "unwanted, unloved and uncared for."

Right then and there, we witnessed the humane and compassionate work that Mother Teresa had been doing for over four decades, tending to the sick and dying of Calcutta's slums.

A few days after our visit, we received a receipt for the donation with an accompanying note from Sister Frederick, saying, "Thank you very much for your visit, for your love and concern for our poor and for your generous gift. It will enable us to bring hope into the lives of many in despair, helping them once again to experience that Divine Love to which all men are called to share. We do hope that on your next visit you will be able to meet Mother. Once again, thank you very much for your kind visit. Be assured of our prayers for you and your family."

Our meeting with Mother Teresa took place later in the same year. An Indian friend made it possible that we be the only diplomatic couple to be invited to the presentation ceremony for the Dayawati Modi Award for Mother Theresa on Nov. 17, 1995 at the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi's premier convention center. She also arranged that we meet the venerable Mother backstage after the ceremony.

Mother Teresa was happy to see us. She said she had been to her mission branch in the Philippines and that she admired the religious fervor of the Filipino people. There was a saintly halo surrounding her bent and diminutive body. We found moral and spiritual beauty in her mere presence.

Sadly, the dutiful servant of God was claimed by her Maker in 1997 at the age of 87.

It became clear to us why Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa were dear friends and kindred spirits. They were the strongest advocates of the "culture of life," and their concern for the sacredness of God-given human life was unparalleled.

Pope John Paul II fast-tracked Mother Teresa's canonization as saint, declaring her a Blessed in October 2003. Similarly, there is a growing clamor to also hasten the late Pope's own sainthood.

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Lourdes Baby Ruth Perez
Elena Calaunan
Merlito Agudo
Jose Suarez
Chuchi Vinluan
Arnel Elumba
Emmanuel Nallas
Evangeline Miranda
Michael Alvaro
Jeremias Callibag
Frances Patricio
Mercy Calderon
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Irelle Valderama
Raquel Florentino
Thess Lagliva
Sailey Baldoza
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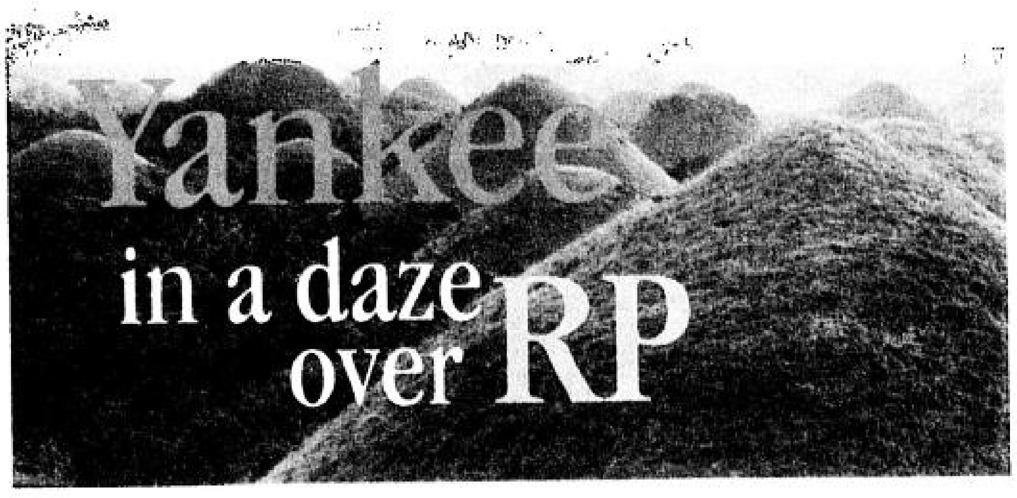
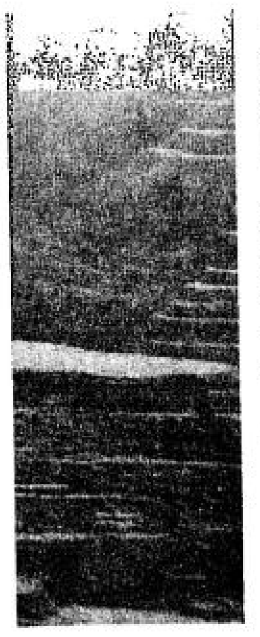
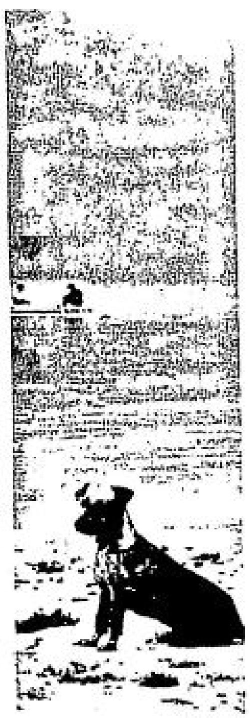


Yankee in a daze over RP

Text and photos by
James J. Hevener
Contributor





IT NEVER occurred to me that my recent trip to the Philippines would be exciting.

I came with my girlfriend, Vanessa, and her mother, Evangeline. They were attending the wake of a very close relative, Evangeline's brother and therefore, Vanessa's uncle, who met an untimely death. I understand he was quite healthy.

It was my first trip to the country and I was very excited. After my Philippine sojourn, I can say I was thrilled more than ever, even writing this article because the trip was certainly something money cannot buy. It was worth all the time and the effort.

After the burial, (Tito) Dante set up a trip for us, for me, particularly, to see other parts of the country. Our destinations were Bohol, Sagada and the Banaue Rice Terraces.

I wished I had more time in my hand because those places were just wonderful. I had the feeling there could be other places in the Philippines just as beautiful as these.

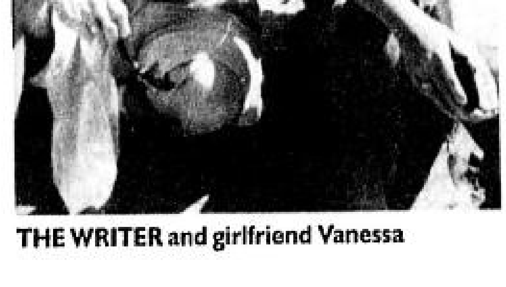
I had to capture everything in my 35 mm camera because the sights were breathtaking. I couldn't afford to let go of them without storing them concretely.

Well, the pictures speak for themselves.

Uniquely wonderful

The Banaue Rice Terraces were simply amazing. No wonder, it is considered the eighth wonder of the world. I could not

YANKEE/J6



THE WRITER and girlfriend Vanessa

Tears?

Amanda just can't believe how rich the simple life she leads is. Surrounded by friends, embraced by family and steeped in character from the experiences and people in her life journey, she doesn't need fine things to make her happy. And so every photograph of her reflects a serenity that comes from the memory and excitement for all the beautiful things that life has to offer, like good food shared with cherished company on the perfect beach or the overwhelming magnificence of nature, be it dazzling coral reefs or fascinating sea creatures. Life as it is just moves her.

Wanting others to experience these simple joys of life, Amanda has joined the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP), a non-profit humanitarian organization committed to alleviating corneal blindness in Filipinos, and Visine Refresh, a tears substitute. On its tenth year, EBFP keeps the hope of restored sight alive by making corneal transplant surgery accessible to all, and prevents more unnecessary blindness by educating the public on the importance of healthy eyes.

In line with this campaign, each purchase of Visine Refresh will mean a donation to the EBFP in support of its fight against corneal blindness.

You, too, can help the EBFP by donating cash, or signing on as a cornea or eye donor. Join Amanda, Visine Refresh and the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines in the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign, and ensure that our fellow Filipinos see a bright future ahead.

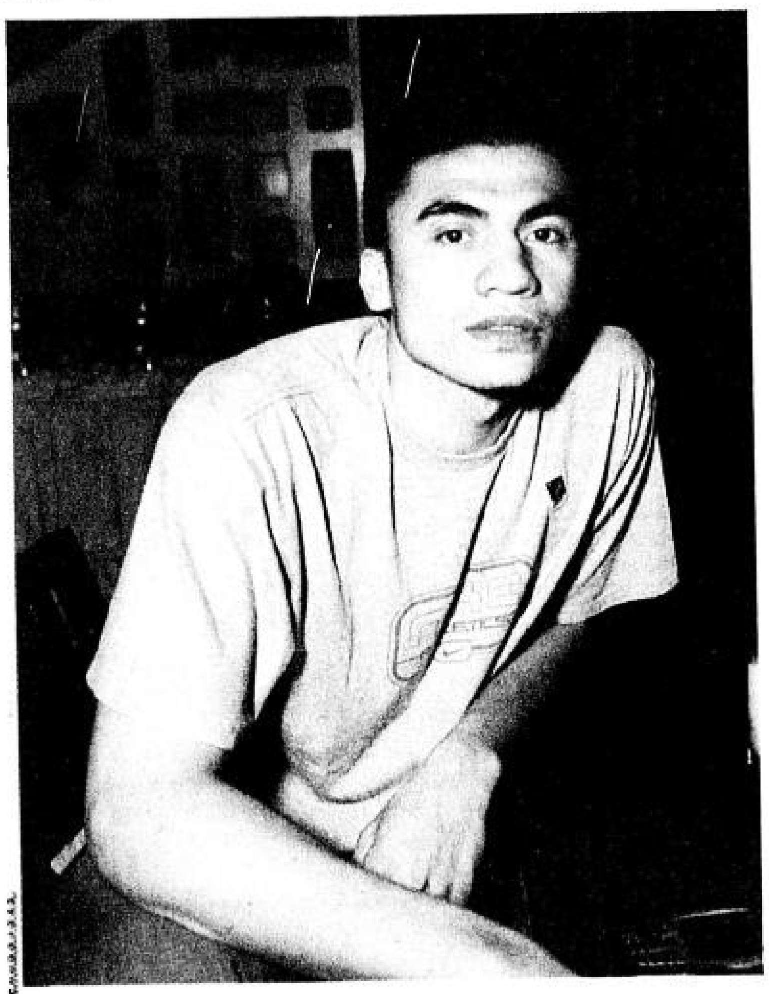
Amanda Griffin

Amanda Griffin
International VJ/Model

EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
A NON-PROFIT NON-GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION

Visine* Refresh

Health, nutrition and living well


MARK Cardona

HEALTHY living is the concern of the General Nutrition Center (GNC). Thus, its motto, "We'll help you live your best life."

GNC does not offer drugs or cure to stress and ailments, but makes available an array of dietary and health food supplements that provide the nutrients that may be lacking in the food people eat today.

GNC Live Well started 10 years ago when the Borromeo family bought the franchise of the world's largest chain of health food stores.

JV Borromeo, vice president for operations of Healthy You, the executive franchisee of the company, said that the company seeks to educate people on health food supplements.

"We do not presume to make claims which our products cannot substantiate. What customers see on our labels are what they get," explained Borromeo. "We just guide them on what they might need depending on their desired outcome."

GNC also caters to professional athletes.

According to GNC sports nutrition specialist Dr. Victor Vesuña, the most talented athletes cannot reach their maximum potential without proper nutrition. GNC offers specialized sports proteins and powders to support every workout program of these athletes.

Elite-level athletes and fitness professionals source nutrition supplements from GNC since other stores improperly handle supplements that may lose their potency after repacking.

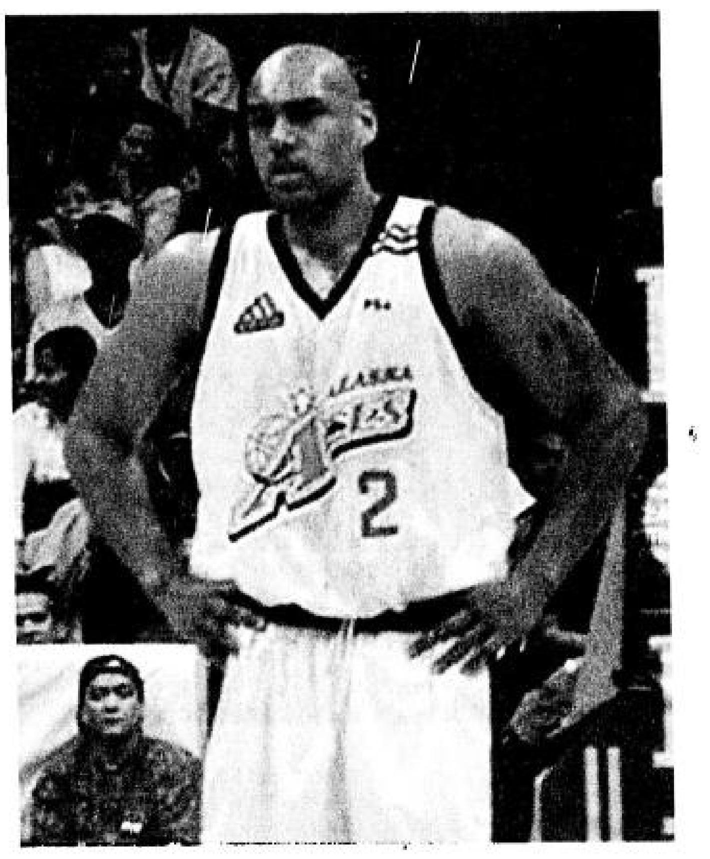
Regular endorsers of GNC are Ali Peek of Coca-Cola and Nic Belasco of San Miguel Beer in the Philippine Basketball Association.

Last year, Mark Cardona of DLSU-ICTSI also became a GNC endorser.

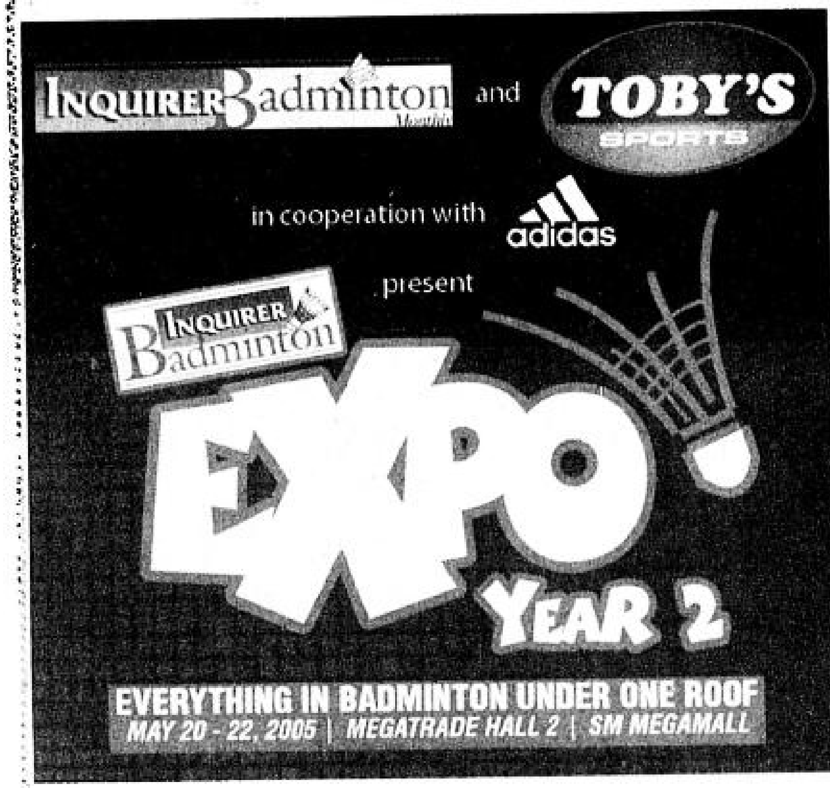
The three are now holding the GNC NAM (Nic-Ali-Mark) Mall Tour at leading shopping centers to interact with the public, play games with fans and give the latest information on health and fitness.

Other GNC clients include competitive bodybuilders, fitness professionals and health lovers.

GNC has around 40 outlets nationwide.



ALI Peek



Big discounts from the giants in badminton such as Adidas, Mizuno, Kason, Yonex, RSL, Carlton, Dunlop, Prince, Gosen, Wilson, Victor and many more!

Catch the **Toby's Sports Exhibition Match** featuring **2004 Olympic gold medalist Taufik Hidayat** and **Yonex All-England champion Hafiz Hashim** with members of the **Philippine National Team**.
May 21 and 22, 4:00-6:00PM

Watch the **Toby's Badminton Clinic** hosted by the Philippine Badminton Team Coach, **Martin Araneta**
May 21 and 22, 2:00-4:00pm

Get a chance to **win Toby's and Adidas Gift Certificates, Wilson products,** and many more in the hourly raffle

Inquirer Badminton Bulilit Tournament
For kids aged 10 and under

Eliminations:	May 20, 1:00-6:00pm
Quarter Finals:	May 20, 6:00-8:00pm
Semi Finals:	May 22, 10:00-11:00am
Finals:	May 22, 1:00-2:00 pm

Trained cardiologists and **orthopedic doctors** to give a **thorough fitness screening check-up** for the first 200 patrons of the Toby's booth.

First **100 visitors** of the day get a **FREE limited edition Inquirer Badminton body bag!**

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cynthia

The pieces of the puzzle are starting to fit.

Pipo, the security guard, has come forward to surrender the missing money but he has so far been cleared by the police. You also find out what Cynthia had to say in a press conference. Finally, you tell yourself, Cynthia is coming out clean by shedding light on an issue that has hounded her the past few weeks.

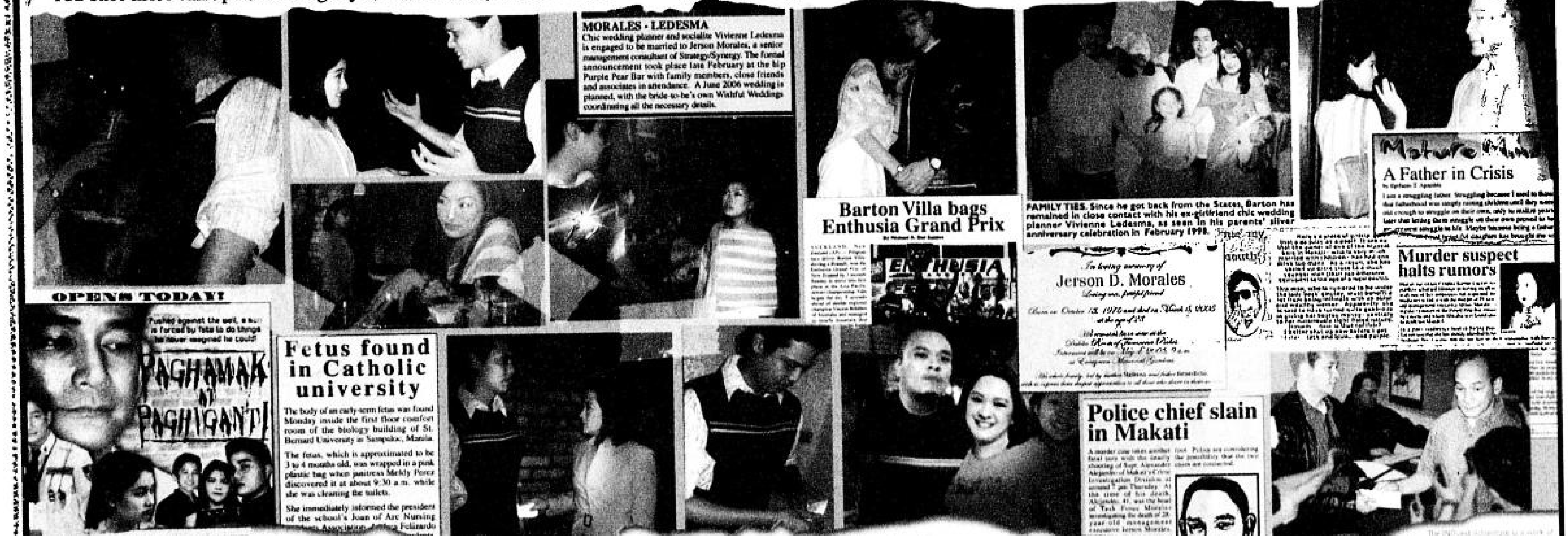
You read through the newspaper and although news of a death and an attempted suicide in the Inquirer jolt you, you also begin to sense that a defining moment of illumination is about to come to pass.

Aware too of the legal implications that might arise from the death of Jerson, you look through the opinion page of the Inquirer.

To help you further in your quest to discover the identity of the murderer, you watch a follow-up report on Jerson's funeral on on ABC-5 through INQTV on Thursday, May 26, 10:30pm. Moved by the eulogies of family and friends of Jerson, you resolve to see this through. The death of Jerson has obviously left them shaken and pained. You think you owe it not only to Jerson but also to them. You again tune in to INQTV the following Thursday, June 2 for any further reports connected to the case.

Finally, to fill in the gaps, you log on to **www.inquestor.com** and look for the link that will take you to the blog of Jerson. You feel a strong need to learn more about him. He was, after all, someone whom many people dearly loved and miss terribly.

You once more call upon the images you've stored in your memory, confident of finding the thread that will unravel the mystery.



MORALES - LEDESMA
Chic wedding planner and socialite Vivienne Ledesma is engaged to be married to Jerson Morales, a senior management consultant of Strategy/Synergy. The formal announcement took place late February at the hip Purple Pear Bar with family members, close friends and associates in attendance. A June 2006 wedding is planned, with the bride-to-be's own Wishful Weddings coordinating all the necessary details.

Barton Villa bags Enthusia Grand Prix

FAMILY TIES. Since he got back from the States, Barton has remained in close contact with his ex-girlfriend chic wedding planner Vivienne Ledesma, as seen in his parents' silver anniversary celebration in February 1998.

Jerson D. Morales

A Father in Crisis

Murder suspect halts rumors

OPENS TODAY!

PAGHAMAK AT PAGHIGANTI

Fetus found in Catholic university

The body of an early-term fetus was found Monday inside the first floor comfort room of the biology building of St. Bernard University in Sampaloc, Manila.

The fetus, which is approximated to be 3 to 4 months old, was wrapped in a pink plastic bag when janitress Meldy Perez discovered it at about 9:30 a.m. while she was cleaning the toilets.

She immediately informed the president of the school's Joan of Arc Nursing

Police chief slain in Makati

Sorting out all the information you've gathered the past weeks and having done all the investigative work you needed to do, you are now ready to solve the mystery.

Q9 Who killed Jerson Morales?

A. Vivienne Ledesma
B. Jeng Apacible
C. Cynthia Lucero
D. Barton Villa
E. Gian Enriquez
F. Pipo Apacible

You are so close to solving the mystery behind the death of Jerson Morales! Remember, to ensure that you have all your facts straight, read the Inquirer's METRO section on Tuesday (May 24). Then, tune in to INQTV on ABC-5 at 10:30pm on Thursday (May 26). Go through the METRO section on Friday (May 27). Get hold of the JOB MARKET section on Sunday (May 29). Then, read through the LIFESTYLE section on Monday and Tuesday (May 30 & 31) and the METRO section on Wednesday (June 1). View INQTV again on Thursday (June 2). Scan the OPINION page on Friday (June 3). Finally, visit www.inquestor.com on Saturday (June 4) to gain access to Jerson's online journals.

To answer, text INQ Q<question #> <answer> (Ex: INQ Q5 A) to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular (P2.00/text) subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text (P2.50/text) subscribers. Maximum of 3 text answers per question. Send in your answers by Saturday, June 4, to qualify for the final draw on Monday, June 6. Then read the chilling conclusion of the murder at the Purple Pear Bar and find out who Jerson's ruthless killer is.

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Bankers explain why they have gone green

Last of 2 parts

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

WHY banks are into green activities was discussed at the recent forum on "The Greening of the Financial Sector."

It was the first, but long overdue, link-up between the environment and finance, which made it all the more interesting and momentous. The overriding reason, according to the speakers, was the realization that environmental practices were beneficial to both financial institutions and their clients, based on the axiom that "the environment matters and it matters a lot."

Environment matters because it is either the primary resource of many a business enterprise or it is an important component of operations. Conserving it, using it sustainably, is more likely to gain a business public acceptance and lessen its problems, making it possible to meet its various obligations, particularly financial ones.

Gary B. Teves, president and CEO of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), presented the experiences of his bank when it went into "green mode." It began with a study that showed air quality in Metro Manila exceeded ambient air limits, that industrial and hazardous wastes were not disposed of properly, and how these could lead to greater pollution.

It became apparent, he said, that there was need to strike a balance between the bank's development efforts and its commitment to protect the environment. Land Bank opened special financial windows to help clients achieve cleaner production, and offered various credit facilities for environment-friendly projects and related technologies.

Teves said the bank was now the financial agent of the National Chloro-fluorocarbon (or CFC) Phase-out Plan supported by the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund. (The 1987 Montreal Protocol, signed by 24 countries, called for the phaseout of all CFCs used in, among others, refrigeration and aerosol spray.)

This has given his bank, Teves said, the opportunity to assist major companies to get their green acts together, especially to get rid of ozone-depleting substances in their operations. It has also extended billions in loans to help 16 local government units improve their water and sewerage systems.

Since all this should be a continuous effort, LBP offers several programs addressing the growing demand for environmental financing.

Edgardo F. Garcia, chief operating officer of the Development Bank of the Philippines, said 1992 was the year that highlighted environmental concerns for DBP. That year the World Bank presented a structural program for the industry sector. The program aimed to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of Filipino industries. It required that loans granted would have a component addressing environmental concerns.

These presented difficulties and challenges for the bank, such as how to tell whether a project was environmental-friendly. So DBP started with its own people, conducting environmental awareness programs to improve their understanding of environmental issues.

It produced manuals and guidelines like the Environment Due Diligence and the Environmental Performance Monitoring manuals for internal use. It also developed guidelines to help identify environmental investments to assist account officers in marketing environmental programs.

In time, environmental commitment came on more naturally and became even more ambitious. DBP designed a program to provide financial credits and technical assistance for environmental investment. It helped open credit facilities with funding from foreign sources such as Japan Bank for International Cooperation and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

The bank is also launching a new program, the DBP Forest, that aims to help government in its forestation, soil and water conservation efforts by collaborating with other institutions and organizations in restoring forest cover while providing income-generating opportunities.

EDD and EP

During the forum, two phrases were often heard because they are important parts of green banking operations—the Environmental Due Diligence (EDD) and the Equator Principle (EP).

Aurora Maghirang, senior assistant vice president, DBP environmental unit, defined EDD as an investigative process that aided companies (like real estate developers, manufacturers, insurance firms, banks, etc.) identify potential sources of future environmental risks and liabilities at an early stage, thus protecting the company's profitability. In financial institutions, EDD means environmental screening of proposed investments by commercial banks, pension funds, mutual funds, municipal and private portfolio managers, and credit-rating agencies. EDDs are said to resemble environmental audits.

EP, on the other hand, is an industry approach for financial institutions in determining, assessing and managing environmental and social risks in project financing. A voluntary set of guidelines, it was developed by leading financial institutions, based on standards set by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and applied globally to development projects with certain capital costs.

Adherence to EP, as stressed by Diwa C. Guinigundo of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, made it possible to adopt strategies in such areas as internal controls, financial and credit risk, public relations and marketing. Borrowers were encouraged to include these guidelines in the design and execution of projects.

Other speakers touched on recommended practices that showed that banking and finance were not too far removed from environmental issues. One could even say they were invaluable aids in monitoring and assessing developmental projects.

Events

The 10th Living Lakes Conference was held in Tagaytay City. It was hosted by the Global Nature Fund (GNF), an independent international, non-profit organization based in Germany; the Conservation of Laguna de Bay's Environment and Resources (CLEAR), and the Laguna Lake Development Authority under general manager Edgardo C. Manda.

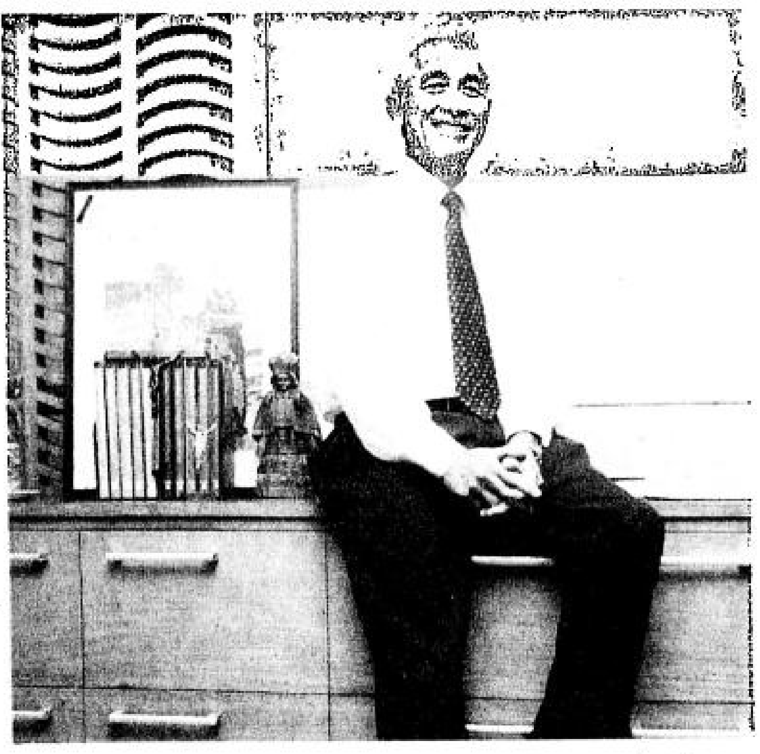
Laguna Lake is the 18th lake in the Global Living Lakes Organization's list of lakes important to the economic and social life of a people and their environment. Delegates from 24 countries participated.

The Energy Camp 2005 was the second summer activity of its kind organized by the Philippine National Oil Company-Energy Development Corporation (PNOC-EDC) as part of its social commitment to its host communities and to 1,500 scholars in its five geothermal field sites. The scholars study in public schools that serve the communities.

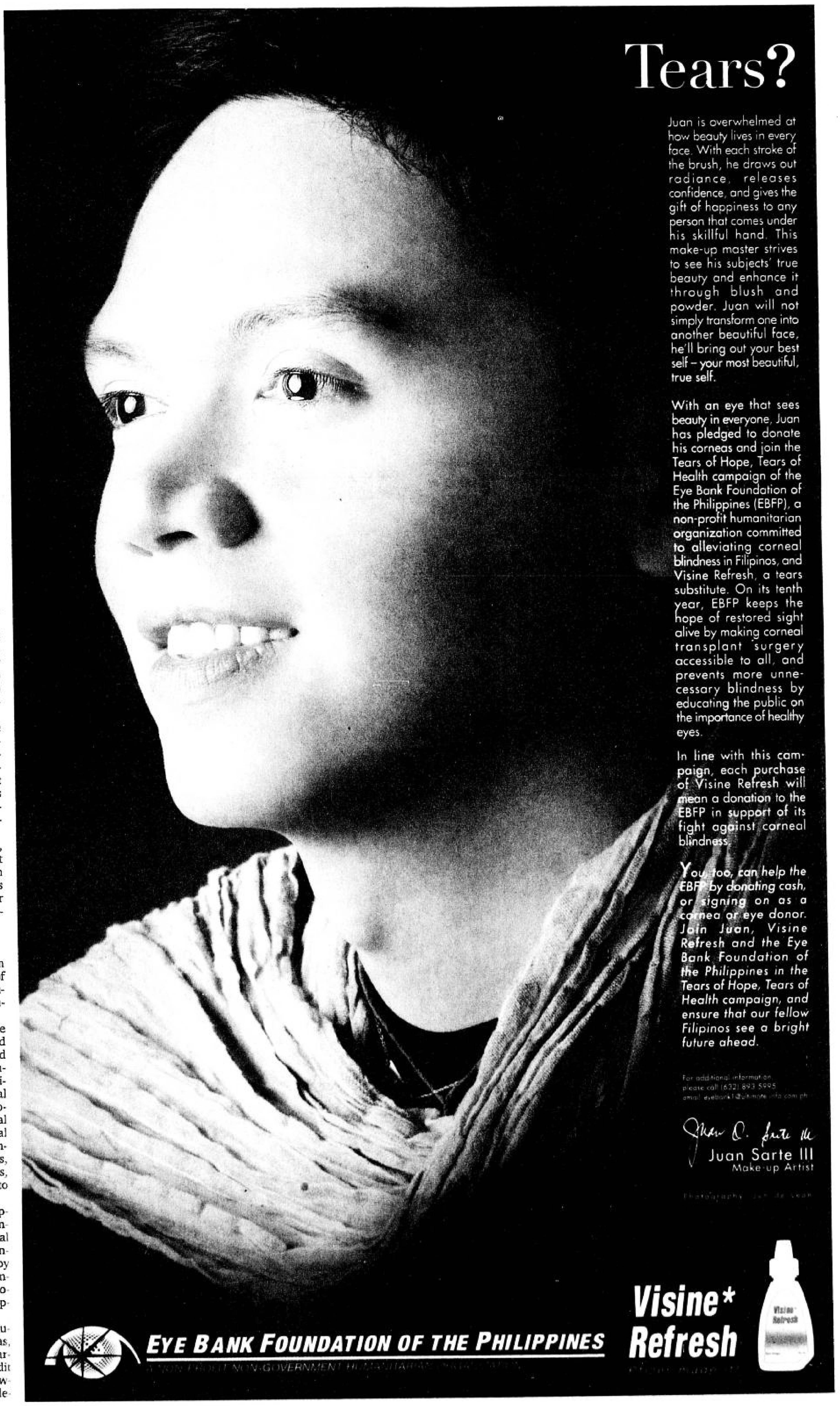
The camp aimed to provide the youth access to activities they would otherwise not experience or afford. They learned environmental practices, sports and outdoor activities, even social graces. There were lectures on geothermal energy and plant tours.

The camps were held a week apart in Bicol, Leyte, North Cotabato and Negros Oriental.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com



LAND BANK CEO Margarito Teves says the bank is committed to striking a balance between its development efforts and its commitment to protect the environment.



Tears?

Juan is overwhelmed at how beauty lives in every face. With each stroke of the brush, he draws out radiance, releases confidence, and gives the gift of happiness to any person that comes under his skillful hand. This make-up master strives to see his subjects' true beauty and enhance it through blush and powder. Juan will not simply transform one into another beautiful face, he'll bring out your best self – your most beautiful, true self.

With an eye that sees beauty in everyone, Juan has pledged to donate his corneas and join the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP), a non-profit humanitarian organization committed to alleviating corneal blindness in Filipinos, and Visine Refresh, a tears substitute. On its tenth year, EBFP keeps the hope of restored sight alive by making corneal transplant surgery accessible to all, and prevents more unnecessary blindness by educating the public on the importance of healthy eyes.

In line with this campaign, each purchase of Visine Refresh will mean a donation to the EBFP in support of its fight against corneal blindness.

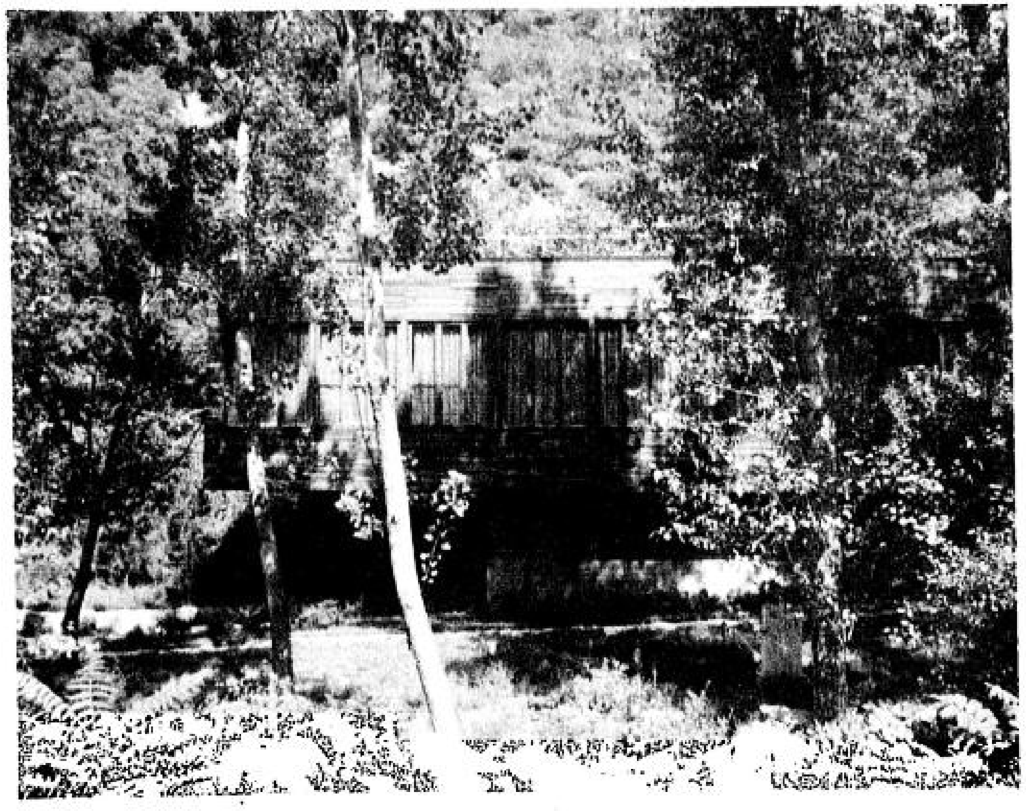
You, too, can help the EBFP by donating cash, or signing on as a cornea or eye donor. Join Juan, Visine Refresh and the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines in the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign, and ensure that our fellow Filipinos see a bright future ahead.

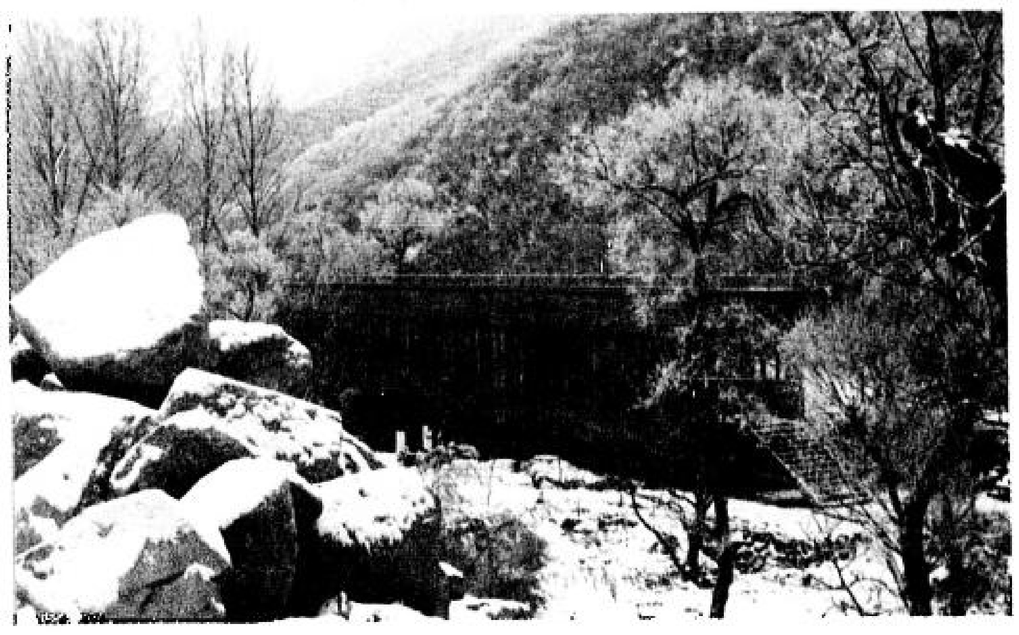
For additional information,
please call (632) 893 5995
email: eyebank1@ultimate-info.com.ph

Juan Sarte III
Make-up Artist

EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

Visine* Refresh


SUITCASE House, screened by trees and verdant in summer


WINTER WONDERLAND. Suitcase House in snow-clad fairy-tale setting. The Great Wall is within walking distance.

THE METAMORPHIC space, furnished for cozy conversation with open compartments

Suitcase livin

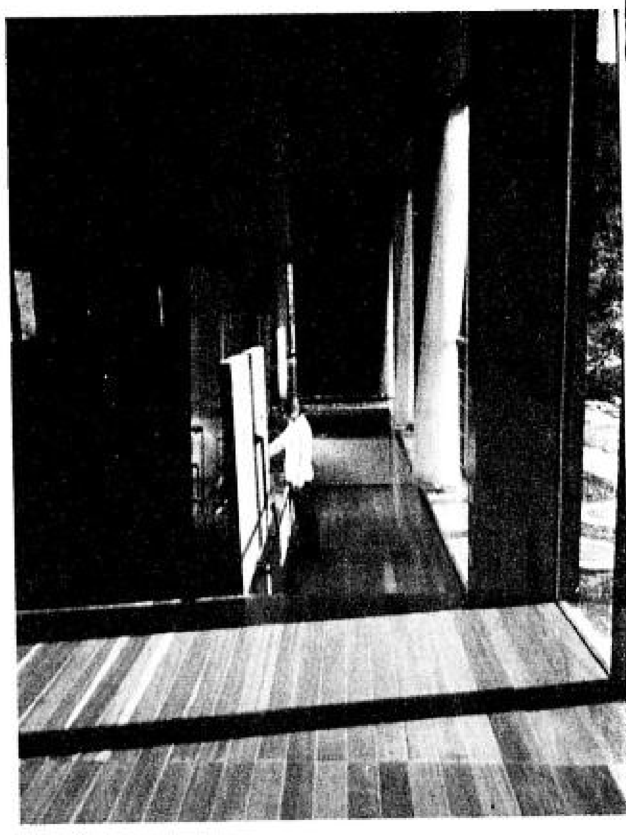
By Blanche D. Gallardo
Photographed by Gary Chang
Contributors

LIVING off a suitcase is familiar experience to most seasoned travelers. But even they will find living off this suitcase a rather special experience. Designed by multi-award winning Hong Kong architect Gary Chang, Suitcase House is part of an experimental tourist development in Badaling Suiguan in Beijing, consisting of 11 houses and a clubhouse, set on a tract of virgin land, snow-covered in winter and verdant with vegetation in summer.

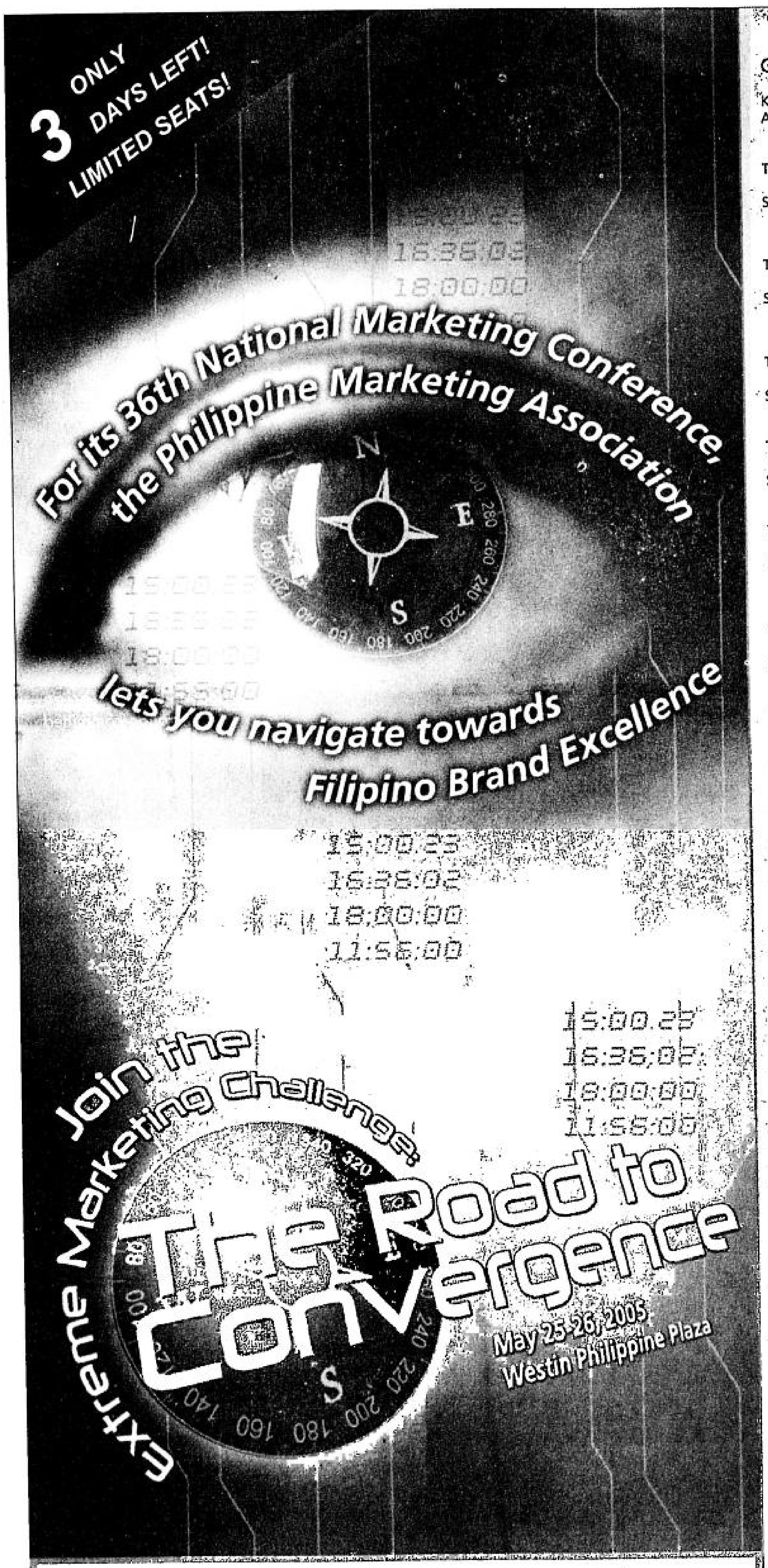
The developers, Soho China Ltd., invited 12 outstanding young architects from Asia, including from South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong and Mainland China, to each design a house for the development, sited in a picturesque valley in the shadow of mountains and within sight of the Great Wall.

"The natural environment is very poetic," says Chang, associate professor and lecturer at the University of Hong Kong and winner of numerous awards for architecture and interior design. "But being able to wake up in the morning and jog to the Great Wall for exercise, and then back to the house for a shower in a matter of minutes, is real luxury."

Cantilevered on all sides and anchored to a concrete base, Chang's "Suitcase House" is an elongated box which appears to float gracefully above its setting, resembling a timber-clad train glimpsed through a curtain of trees. Premised on the desire for ultimate adaptability, the design attempts, through a "stacking of strata" in three levels, "to rethink the nature of intimacy, privacy, spontaneity and


KITCHEN compartment

THE ROOFDECK. Open to the skies and the surrounding landscape, with spectacular view of the Great Wall. Part-floorboard and part-pebble flooring, with pull-down staircase in mid-background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CONFIGURED for dining, with storage compartments open at either side

STUDY/READING compartment

g by the Great Wall

flexibility in a dwelling which unfolds the mechanics of domestic pleasure in a demonstration of the desire for ultimate adaptability."

'Metamorphic'

The main living space is a "floor of emptiness" or "metamorphic" space unencumbered by furniture or enclosed areas. In pursuit of infinite scenarios and possibilities, this stretch of emptiness offers the flexibility of instant transformation, using mobile elements that slide, or lift out from the flooring to reconfigure or enclose space, or create a series of open and enclosed areas, each further defined by the amenities, the nature of activities, number of occupants, and their personal preferences for enclosed or open spaces.

Tucked out sight under the floor panels, are the makings of the different "compartments" —kitchen, bathrooms, storage and other areas for specific use. Left totally open, the space measures 44 x 5 meters. Partitioned, using the pneumatically assisted floorboards and its complement of full-height sliding, folding, rotating or oscillating partitions, it can be instantly transformed and reconfigured into numerous areas for varying functions and activities, including as a music chamber, a library, a meditation room with glazed flooring that looks out onto the valley below, a study and a lounge. For sleeping, the same space accommodates seven guestrooms.

"There are flights of steps inside every beacon tower on the Great Wall which closely resemble my 'Suitcase,'" says Chang. "Open the floorboards and walk downstairs, and you can be at rest or at play. Close them again, and they disappear! How many configurations can 50 'openable' floorboards hold? Is it to be a hotel? A club? A venue for a think-tank? Let no one say—'No, you can't do that!'"

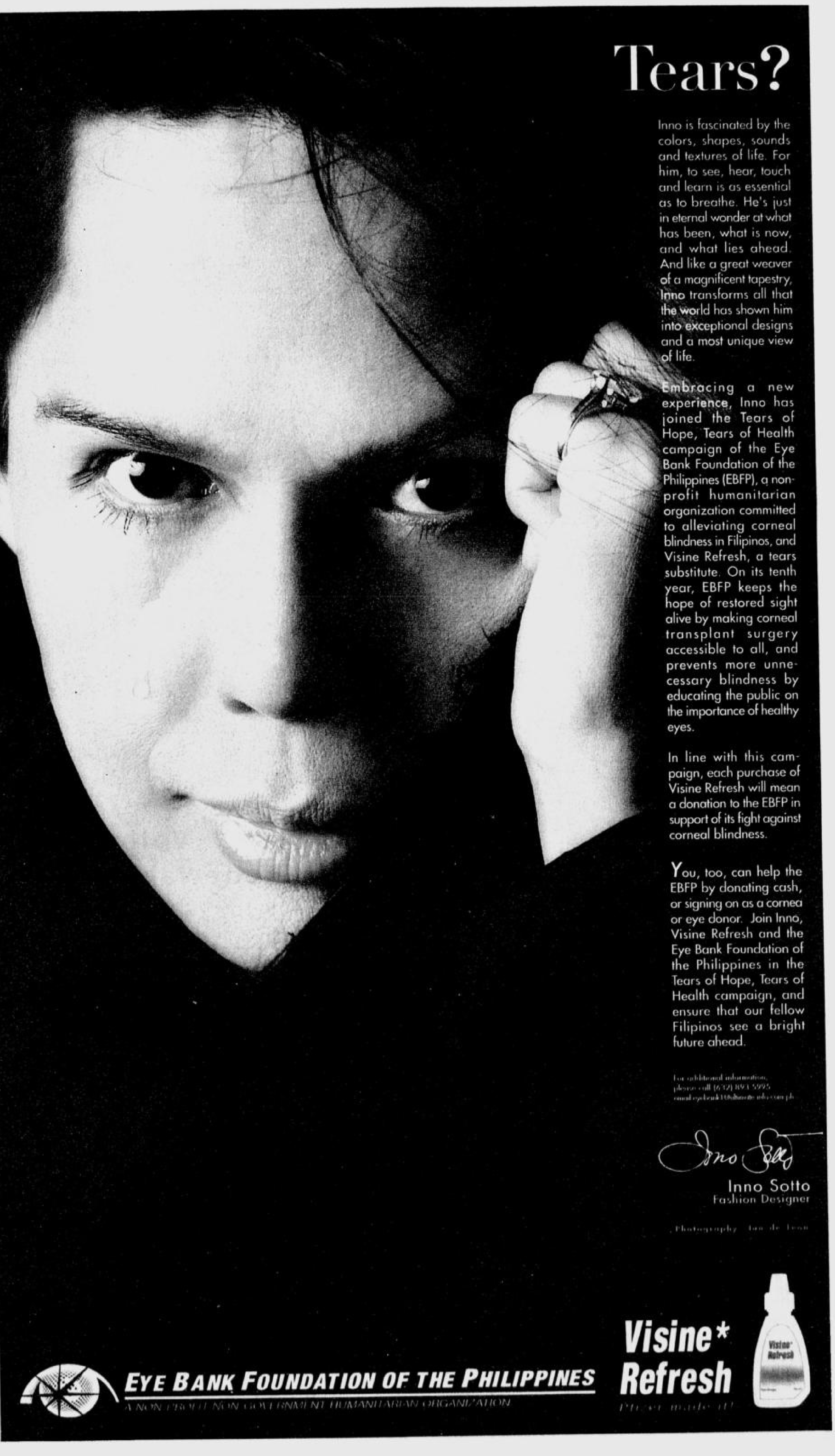
Actually, it is a residential hotel, open to tourists all year round. Supported by a steel structure, the timbered box is punched through, throughout, with full-height double-gazed folding doors and rests—cantelivered—on a concrete base housing a pantry, maid's quarters, boiler room and a fully equipped sauna/shower. A north-south orientation capitalizes on its scenic location at the head of the Nangou Valley and makes the most of the climate, which requires no air-conditioning in summer. Offering unobstructed views across the mountains and the Great Wall from all over the house, it exploits the spectacular view to greatest advantage in the half-pebbled, half-timbered roof terrace, which is open to the skies and is accessible by pull-down staircase from below.

Inevitable comparisons

Comparisons between Chang's miniscule 330-sq-ft home in Hong Kong and the Suitcase House in Beijing are inevitable. Both, admits Chang, stem from an identical line of thinking. "It is the same concept expanded into other genres." Originally a living/working space for a family of six, the flat was transformed into a bachelor's pad in 1998. Eschewing rigid partitions in favor of an open central area for efficient use of space and multiplicity of function, the same central area doubles as living, eating, sleeping and entertaining space. Holding the usual assortment of furnishings, including chrome shelving recessed into a wall and a 'sofa on wheels' that transforms into a 'bed on wheels,' the studio flat metamorphoses into a home theater using the flat's single window—draped with a white sheet—as a projection screen.

Opened in October 2002, the Suitcase House project was exhibited at Archilab in Orleans, France in 2001 and at the 8th International Biennial Exhibition of Architecture in Venice, Italy in 2002. It has won numerous distinctions and awards, including the IDA (Interior Design Association of Hong Kong) 2002 Blanche Gallardo Award as the year's Most Outstanding Entry to the annual Asia Pacific Interior Design Awards, which Blanche D. Gallardo originated as publisher/editor of Dimensions magazine; the Dedalo Minosse International Prize 2002 (for architects under 40) from Vincenza, Italy; the 2004 Asia Award for "Distinguished Design from China" from the Hong Kong Design Center; a High Commendation in 2003 from London's AR+D Award; and most recently, the 2004 Architecture + Award (Housing and Residential category), from Dubai.

Tourist stays/visits to the Suitcase House and the other hotel/residential units in this unique experimental development may be arranged, or booked, through www.commune.com.cn



Tears?

Inno is fascinated by the colors, shapes, sounds and textures of life. For him, to see, hear, touch and learn is as essential as to breathe. He's just in eternal wonder at what has been, what is now, and what lies ahead. And like a great weaver of a magnificent tapestry, Inno transforms all that the world has shown him into exceptional designs and a most unique view of life.

Embracing a new experience, Inno has joined the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP), a non-profit humanitarian organization committed to alleviating corneal blindness in Filipinos, and Visine Refresh, a tears substitute. On its tenth year, EBFP keeps the hope of restored sight alive by making corneal transplant surgery accessible to all, and prevents more unnecessary blindness by educating the public on the importance of healthy eyes.

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You, too, can help the EBFP by donating cash, or signing on as a cornea or eye donor. Join Inno, Visine Refresh and the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines in the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign, and ensure that our fellow Filipinos see a bright future ahead.

Inno Sotto
Inno Sotto
Fashion Designer

EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
A NON PROFIT NON GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION

Visine*
Refresh

Yankee in a daze over RP

BANAUE Rice Terraces

> Now, I continue to ponder why more Americans don't visit the Philippines. I am sure my recent trip would not be my last

BOATMEN of Tobegon, Bohol

From page J1

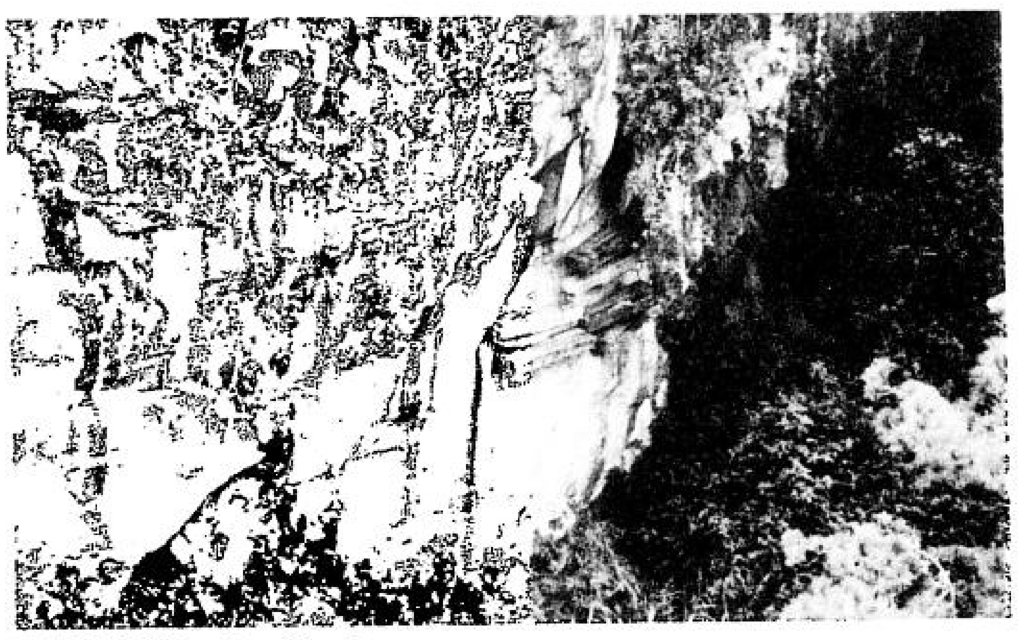
imagine how they were built with human hands. Maybe that was what made them very sturdy. They looked like they were made by the greatest master. Uniquely wonderful… from every angle.

I was particularly very happy with the photos of the hills around Sabayan, near Carmen and the world-famous Chocolate Hills. And the sights of Sagada were just as marvelous. I got first-hand information of the so-called hanging coffins. They were hanging all right and had lasted for centuries.

Now, I continue to ponder why more Americans don't visit the Philippines. In fact, the trip was so exciting I am going to start a website to encourage Americans to see the Philippines.

The combination of scuba diving, fine resorts, points of historical and geographic interest, as well as my favorite, the diminutive tarsier, make Bohol, in my view, a truly world-class destination.

And the Filipinos? That is another beautiful story… their hospitality, their sincerity in dealing with foreigners, their unusually beautiful and close relationships… I was in the right place all the time.



THE HANGING coffins of Sagada

I promised (Tito) Dante if there was anything I could do to expedite his job prospects in the States, he could communicate with me. "Trust me," I wrote him, "when I say you would prefer most areas in California over Texas. The fact that our 'esteemed' leader hails from Crawford, Texas, says it all."

I am sure my recent trip to the Philippines would not be my last. Hope to come back with friends from America.

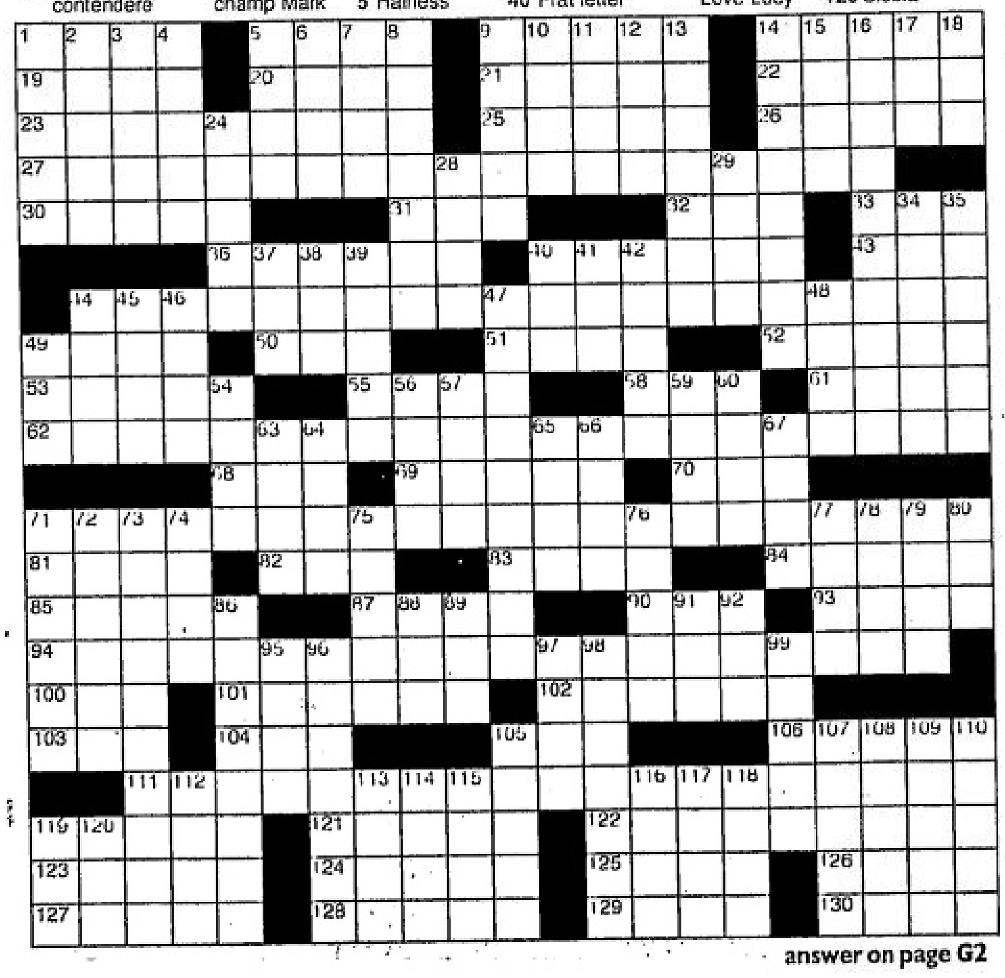
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

DULL WIT

ACROSS
1 Kermit, e.g.
5 1997 Halle Berry comedy
9 Where to earn yen
14 Heed, as advice
19 "Clair de —"
20 Some
21 Pedro's pal
22 Moby-Dick, e.g.
23 British pilot's craft
25 Backyard burrowers
26 Pretended
27 Start of a riddle
30 Snooze
31 Railroad beam
32 Airline to Tokyo, for short
33 Club — (resort)
36 Ashen look
40 Flinch
43 Capitol Records owner
44 Riddle, part 2
49 Jokester Jay
50 Nabokov novel
51 — contendere
52 Rose sticker
53 Foppish scarf
55 Building manager, briefly
58 Actress Long
61 In the hub of
62 Riddle, part 3
68 Raised railways
69 "Ta-ta!"
70 "... boy — girl?"
71 Riddle, part 4
81 "Dedicated to the — Love"
82 Dinghy mover
83 Military sch.
84 Asparagus unit
85 "You're never too — learn"
87 Somme state
90 Exploit
93 Lanai, e.g.
94 End of the riddle
100 Sugar suffix
101 Many a Manhattan cabbie
102 1998 Masters champ Mark
103 Giants star Mel
104 Holbrook or Linden
105 "Inning" has three
106 Gull relatives
111 Riddle's answer
119 Actor Ryan
121 Cut a rug
122 Hassle
123 Alfalfa's gal
124 Open, as floodgates
125 Price tag info
126 Brainstorm
127 — salts (bath additive)
128 Robert who reached the North Pole
129 Art Deco artist
130 British noble

DOWN
1 Blemishes
2 "Lost in Yonkers" co-star Mercedes
3 One way to serve pastrami
4 Crystal-lined stone
5 Hairless
6 "... to market, to buy — pig"
7 Phnom —
8 Infatuated with
9 Farr of "M*A*S*H"
10 Latin love
11 Caplet, e.g.
12 Ripening agent
13 Popular plastic surgery
14 Whole bunch
15 Cartoonist Addams, familiarly
16 John Denver's "Country Roads" request
17 Bullfight cheer
18 Composer Rorem
24 Miss Longstocking
28 Encircled
29 So-so
34 TV chef who yells "Bam!"
35 Tyrolean peasant skirt
37 Red — beet
38 Brit's "Inc."
39 Tiniest bit
40 Frat letter
41 Snaky swimmer
42 Hag
44 John of New Age
45 A single time
46 Birdbrain
47 "Hold on a sec"
48 "Is — a fact?"
49 Ordinance
54 "The Cosby Show" role
56 Mormon state
57 Prefix with cab or cure
59 False god
60 Gillette razor
63 Red Muppet
64 Perplexed
65 Correctly identifies
66 Veer
67 Granola bits
71 "Oh, boo —!" (mock sympathy)
72 Join up
73 Irish dogs
74 In — (where nature put it)
75 Goody
76 — toilette (cologne)
77 Monumental
78 Arnaz of "I Love Lucy"
79 Giantlike
80 Mine rocks
86 Fleeing
88 "Uno" + "due"
89 Moist mo.
91 Mineral spring
92 Chariot add-on?
95 Fly high
96 In hiding
97 Taboo action
98 Measure equal to a font's point size
99 Snazzily dressed
105 Adversary
107 Sell online
108 Sonata segment
109 More affable
110 Lieu
112 Religious circle?
113 Taper off
114 Time — half
115 Battle souvenir
116 — about (roughly)
117 Technical sch.
118 IOU, e.g.
119 Tribute in verse
120 Siesta



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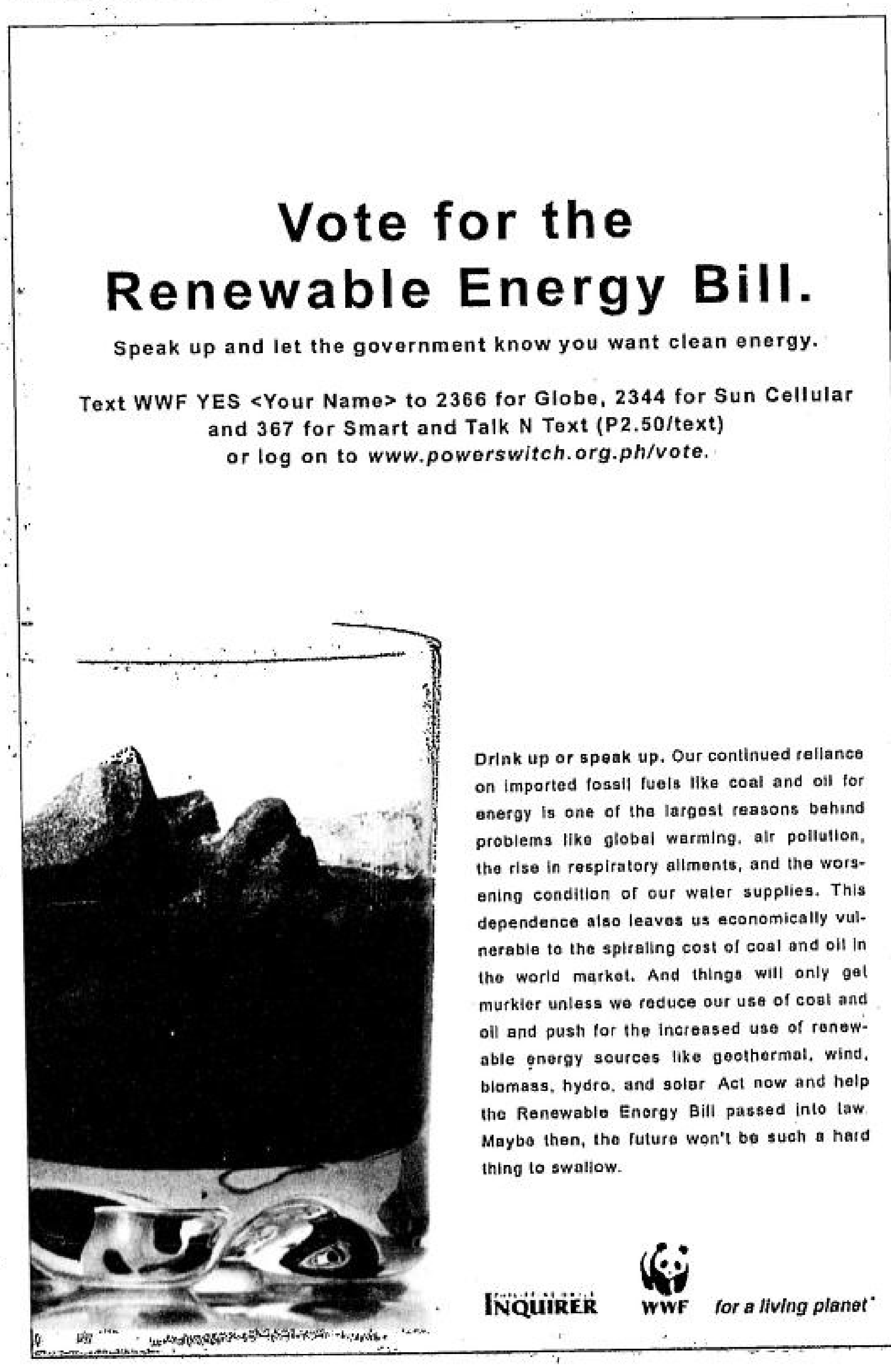

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Home in Paris

HOTEL Gavarni combines elements of the old country and the luxuries and conveniences of modern living. Located in Passy Village, Paris, a step away from Trocadero and Eiffel Tower, Hotel Gavarni has 21 rooms with 4 luxury suites. It's managed and staffed by seasoned hotel and service industry specialists, most of whom are Filipinos who have moved to Paris.

On a given day, as long as it is not too hot, you can see the monkeys emerge from the forest and cross the highway, tails intertwined

STROLLING along the Boardwalk

Savoring Subic

Text and photos by
Amadís Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

THE SUBIC BAY Freeport Zone sprawls over 67,452 hectares in Zambales and Bataan in an area larger than Singapore "but with less income," as a tour guide quipped. It is as much an ecotourist destination as an investors' zone that employs thousands of workers.

The forest, most of it in Bataan, covers 18,000 hectares and is home to snakes, monitor lizards (*bayawak*), wildcats (*musang*), wild boars (*baboy damo*), monkeys and bats.

On a given day, as long as it is not too hot, you can see the monkeys emerge from the forest and cross the highway, tails intertwined. You are not supposed to feed them as this will change their diet (which are fruits from the many trees), and shorten their life span. Feeding the monkeys will also make them lazy and dependent on humans for their lunch.

As for the bats, there's a Bat Kingdom lorded over by a spoiled king bat with a slew of concubines. This winged stud is said to have a veritable harem. His subjects "are fruit bats, not blood suckers," said Derrick Manuel of the Subic BayMetropolitan Authority.

The Freeport produces 33,000 cubic meters of potable water a day. Its stored fuel can support the Philippines for two weeks without interruption. Subic is also a secure place due to the Global Position System (GBS). In case of an emergency—you're lost in the forest, for instance, or there is a fire—just dial 911 and, it is claimed, responding officers will be with you in five minutes.

Going there

Subic lies 120 km northwest of Manila, adjoining Olongapo City, two hours or so by bus from the metropolis. There are many buses along EdSA which go to Olongapo. Traffic has improved on the reconstructed North Expressway but motorists, bus lines and commuters now feel the increased rates.

Freeport-bound motorists no longer pass through Olongapo but take the short cut via Tipo Expressway which leads right to the Zone. A quicker option is the ferry boat from the CCP (Cultural Center of the Philippines) to Orion, Bataan, a one-hour trip.

There are lots of things to do in Subic, and there are many amenities. You can go shopping in the duty-free stores, or try swimming, sailing, parasailing, diving, trekking, dining out, target-shooting, fishing, bowling, testing your mettle in the jungle survival camp, hiking towards the hidden falls (there are seven of them), visiting the museum, arts center and zoo, or going on a Tiger Safari.

A recent familiarization tour hosted by Legend International Resorts Ltd. served as a refresher course (and sometimes an eye-opener) for selected media members. Legend Resorts has three properties in Subic: the elegant Legenda (CQ) Hotel, which has a casino; the cozy Four Seasons Hotel; and the family-oriented Legenda Suites.

Legend Resorts' CEO-executive director is Khoo Boo Boon, a Malaysian who has a Filipina wife and a degree from the Asian Institute of Management: "I'm proud to say that I was educated here and not in England." He finds the Filipinos "warm, but if you go to Hong Kong..." Mercifully he leaves the rest of the sentence unsaid. He adds, "The Filipinos are literate (in English). But if you go to Korea and Japan you get lost."

MIRACLE Beach

Khoo's Legend Resorts often initiates what he calls "activities relevant to the cause," such as raising funds for Haribon Foundation, Tabang Mindanao, the Aytas, forest protection, sending children to school, the Opthalmological Foundation of the Philippines (to prevent blindness among the poor), and for charity golf tournaments.

He is gung-ho about Philippine tourism in general (he has seen much of the country) and the Subic Freezone in particular: "There's a cathedral of forest here, it's very beautiful. And there's a golf course in front of a rainforest—where in the Philippines can you see that? The potential here for tourism is great."

One tree in the forest is so huge that 20 people cannot encircle it.

Selected areas

The tour by SBMA's Manuel and Legend Resorts PRO Argee Gomez brought the media team to or near selected areas, like the Old Spanish Gate circa 1885, the bayside Boardwalk, international airport, a kayaking area being developed, the Legend properties, Crown Peak, Miracle Beach (so called because it was constructed in one to two days for the Aspac Summit Conference), yacht club (since taken over by the Land Bank and opened to new members), the Bicentennial Park and its lagoon with swans, and a 310-hectare industrial park which employs 3,000 workers.

NICOLAS the bear regally scratches his back.

A short walk through a mangrove park brought us to a viewing station which looked out over Triboa Bay, mountains at the other end, the forested area by the sea and, in the distance, close to the shore, the wreck of a sunken Spanish vessel which emerges at low tide.

"This must be my first time to see an antique Spanish vessel," someone observed.

"Me too," a colleague chimed in.

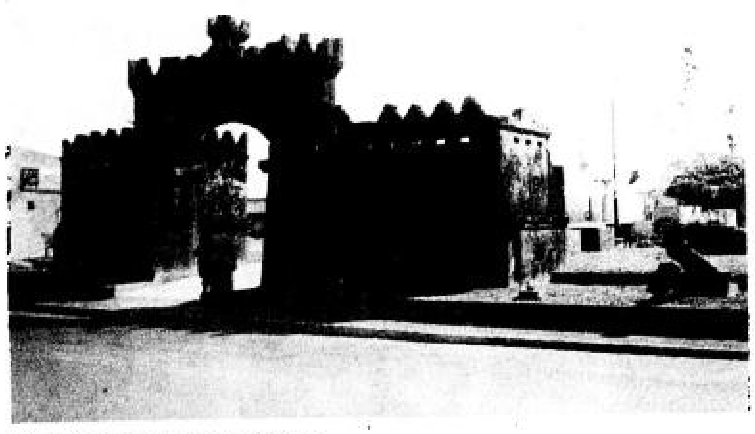
The Freeport's zoo is known as Zoobic Safari, where disarming signs and double-entendres announce the species of the animals, like "Give Me a Bear Hug" and (for ostriches) "Are You Taller Than Me?"

Nicolas the bear, who was awaiting his mate from northern China, apparently felt itchy and regally scratched his back on a tree trunk for the delectation of the media team. And there was a runaway potbellied piglet, pursued by his keeper, who insisted on going to where there were children gawking at another animal.

The highlight of the tour was supposed to be the Tiger Safari, the main attraction of Zoobic. Here, guests ride in special jeepneys with bars as tigers roam around. It is the humans who are behind bars, so to speak, and not the other way round, and it is the wild animals who approach the people or perhaps even run after the moving vehicles.

Alas, we tarried too long at the zoo, for some reason. Because of time constraints, the Tiger Safari was called off. And the sponsor just treated us to a hot pot lunch at Four Seasons Hotel. This made up (somewhat) for the Subic Safari that never was.

FATHER and son enjoy a lagoon with swans.



OLD Spanish Gate circa 1885

Makati invades Cebu

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

IT was a sultry summer night at the Shangri-La's Mactan Islands Resort. **Jo Magsaysay**, doyenne of Cebu's society writers, was coming down the staircase with daughter **Myra Sun**, and escorted by GM **Tim Wright**.

"Lovely!" she exclaimed, taking in the lush garden and the elegant throng of colleagues.

"This is like the mountain coming to Mohammed," Jo chirped, as Makati Shangri-la GM **Jarlath Lynch** stepped forward to welcome her. "Yes," everyone agreed, for Mr. Lynch had come on a sales blitz with a power team determined to pamper the Cebu media. And they succeeded.

"Have you met everyone?" Mactan Shangri-La's **Neil Rumbaoa** and **Jaja Chiongbian** solicitously asked, proceeding to do the introductions.

Old and new friends

"Wonderful to see you again," we told **Lourdes Juco**, once assigned in Mactan, and now the Makati Shangri-La's director of sales and communications.

"Nice to meet you, and hope we do so again," everyone told director for communications **Joy Wassmer**; director for sales **Cecil Weber**; **Bing Bing Lingao**, director for events management; **Dudi Cruz**, in charge of reservations; and **Gene del Prado**, executive sous chef.

Gene was soon gone, going down the flower-strewn paths leading to the Cowrie Cove. He whipped up a fabulous menu in its kitchen. On a cue, we followed the same route.

In a glass pavilion, as cozy as it was cool, we found our seats at beautifully laid tables sparkling with crystal napkin rings and glowing with soft perfumed lights. Instructions were to sit anywhere but to keep at least two empty chairs, for the Makati Shangri-La hosts to transfer from one table to another at every course.

Dinner had a theme, Temptations of Makati Shangri-La, with each dish coming from one of its outlets. First were steamed scallops from Shang Palace, with XO sauce and ginger crisps. The slab of seared tuna was from the Japanese restaurant Inagiku.

Red was appropriately represented by red meat, chilled (never frozen) beef tenderloin flown from New York just for the occasion. It melted in your tongue. Did some of us ask that it be served rare?

Dessert was a sampler platter consisting of a dozen specialties from Circles Event Café. Impossible to finish them all, or so we thought. Definitely wiped out was the petit-four of flour-less chocolate cake.

THE POWER team from Makati Shangri-La: Bing Bing Lingao, Dudi Cruz, Lourdes Juco and Cecile Weber

MAYEN Tan and Jarlath Lynch

Honored

"It's an honor to have you for dinner," Jarlath said at the beginning, and he reiterated it before the evening was over, as everyone got a gift certificate for two nights (and breakfast) at the Makati Shangri-La.

"You could come as a group," chorused Jarlath, Lourdes, Joy, Cecile, Bing Bing, and Gene who had his share of applause for the epicurean dinner he cooked.

When do we go? We'll have to ask The Freeman's **Mayen Tan**, **Nestor Alonso**, **Hen Kintanar**, and **Flor Ynclino** who is planning her annual sojourn to California to visit her children.

The SunStar was represented by **Nelia Neri**, **Chinggay Utzurrum**, **Cookie Newman** and **Mila Espina**. Cebu Daily News, INQUIRER's sister paper in the south, sent food editor **Aissa de la Cruz**.

Richard Ramos came on behalf of What's On/Expat; **Jing Ramos** for Zee magazine; and **Gavin Sanson Bagares** for South Wall, the new glossy mag superbly edited in Cebu by **Boboi Costas**.

Metro Society's Cebu correspondent, **Maricris Encarnacion**, came with **Mary Anne Aboitiz Arculli**, who is doing a great job with Gracious Living. That's also a glossy distributed to residents of her family's exclusive residential subdivision, the hilly, scenic Maria Luisa Estate Park.

Mary Anne and Maricris are busy with another project. They are editing a cook book, with recipes collected from members of the extensive Aboitiz clan. As a treasure-trove of long-forgotten dishes, the book should make for very fine reading.

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Education: Gateway to success

Creating [illegible]

A GREAT passion for the job. Ability to communicate ideas and influence people. Leadership skills. And, not the least, a charismatic personality.

These are just some of the characteristics of successful people, particularly career-oriented people who get to the top.

Grace Sorongon, managing director at John Clements, a recognized recruitment company, has interviewed and observed many career executives who fill the middle management and upper management of companies. She said people who are successful in their chosen careers are just normal or ordinary people who are "driven to prove themselves and they rise above adversities."

"There is a great driving force for them to sustain their efforts in the companies they work for," she says.

She says people on top usually manage many people under them. In most cases, the number one skill these people have is their ability to communicate their ideas. They also have a remarkable ability to work with people — they can lead and influence.

"They have an X factor. You are attracted to them because they're able to influence you in a way, even if you don't believe the way they do things 100 percent."

Successful people fall under some sort of category, and this is often based on their unique abilities. Sorongon says there are people who can turn a company around and there are those who are good at maintaining or sustaining a company. There are those who are good at setting up a company or a division of the company. After they have set it up, they move to another project.

Sorongon says her group at John Clements has been holding career talks in gatherings in some big universities in the country. The purpose of these talks is to make students realize the career they really want to pursue and eventually become successful with their choices.

"Our talk centers on making the student discover himself, identify his abilities, weaknesses, strengths, talents and skills. We also discuss with them their prime motivation. If they discover their prime motivation and their strengths and weaknesses, they can come up with their own goals and a career path. In the process, they are creating their dream job."

According to Sorongon, top jobs in the country today that offer substantial salaries include marketing jobs in the traditional industries such as consumer, manufacturing or banking.

"Some people are very good in creating ideas, plans and programs, and their ability to communicate these ideas can be convincing — they can influence people to work with them."

In the skill-based jobs such as engineering or the like, people with rare technical skills such as making software or designing programs command a higher pay. With the doctors, those in the cosmetic surgery specialization do make money. But one becomes a doctor after so many years of study, says Sorongon.

"A top paying job is dependent on the demand plus what is happening in the economy. You have to match the two. If you have a talent, which is needed by the economy, chances are the salary for that category would be high. If the demand is less for a certain job, then chances are the salary would be low. It's like the law of economics."

'Have the discipline of the ROTC'

Astro del Castillo
Investment Analyst

ASTRO del Castillo, 35, is the managing director of First Grade Holdings Inc, a company he put up two years ago. First Grade Holdings Inc is an investment and management firm that does financial advisory for small and medium companies. It handles from P250 to P300 million in investment portfolio.

Job nature

As an investment analyst, Del Castillo starts work immediately upon waking up at 6 in the morning. He reads the newspapers and watches news on TV to keep himself updated. His chief role is to make financial forecasts. Keeping himself abreast with current events helps him do the financial outlook for the day.

"It's hard to be a Nostradamus, the man who saw the future. He was able to see the future but he didn't invest. The investment analyst is somewhat like him. He does a projec-

ROTC/ K2

NTC's automated licensing of radio stations and engineers by APC students

THE NATIONAL Telecommunication Commission-Radio Regulations and Licensing Department (NTC-RRLD) recently received the turnover of an automated system developed by Asia Pacific College students to support the department's daily transactions particularly its licensing procedures. A project of eight Computer Science/Information.

Technology (CSIT) students, the prototype effectively enhances the licensing and fee collection procedures of RRLD. The Licensing Database Management System and Fee Collection Automation Project was presented to Director Efren Cabanlig of the NTC by Computer Network Engineering (CNE) students Christian Agaloos, Mary Angeline Caguioa, Regina Sunga and Software Systems Engineering students Joel Chiong, Andrew Chua, Sherry Ann Ciriaco, John Sebastian and Glorymil Vicente. Aside from automating licensing procedures, the system features multi-level user access for security purposes on the system with restrictions on its database in compliance to the user's authorization.

Asia Pacific College's CSIT Program uses PBL techniques with students from the sophomore to the senior year working mostly with government agencies pursuant to APC's vision of bridging the industry and the academe. These students do live case ICT projects for the National Telecommunication Commission, Armed Forces of the Philippines, Career Executive Service Board, Cooperative Development Authority, National Food Authority, National Electrification Administration, DILG Patrol 117, Bureau of Customs, Supreme Court, Office of the Solicitor General, to name a few, developing ICT projects in support of the client's information needs.

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‘Excel in a particular field’

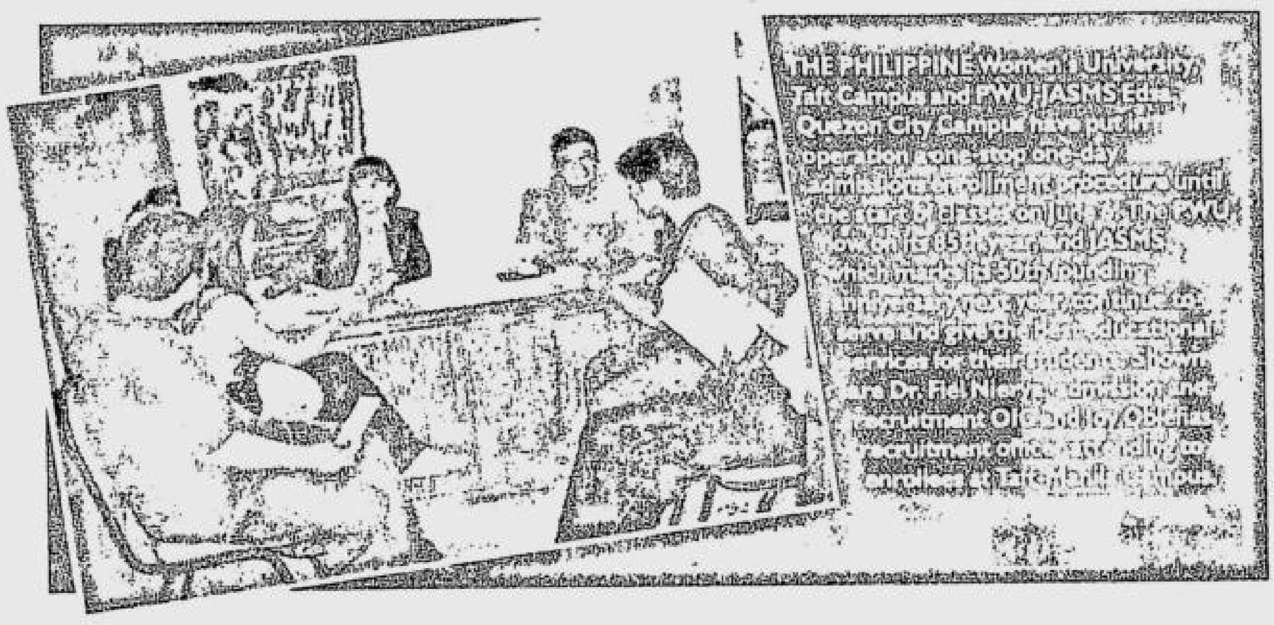
Dr. Juan Sanchez
Diplomate in plastic surgery
Diplomate in general surgery

A GRADUATE of the University of Sto. Tomas College of Medicine and Surgery, Dr. Juan Sanchez is a consultant in plastic surgery at St. Luke's Medical Center, Philippine Heart Center, Philippine Children's Medical Center, and AFP Medical Center. He is an associate professor in plastic surgery at the Far Eastern University-NMRF Medical Center.

Sanchez holds clinics at St. Luke's Medical Center, IDC Plastic Surgery Center, MD Eastwood, and Philippine Children's Medical Center.

He has written articles on rhinoplasty and cleft lip surgery and is the author of the books "Oriental Rhinoplasty" and "Local Anesthetic Blocks Made Simple." He co-authored "Doctors' Practice, Strategies and Guides to Success", a book that seeks to help doctors establish a private practice.

EXCEL/ K3



THE PHILIPPINE Women's University Taft Campus and PWU-JASMS Edsa Quezon City Campus have put in operation a one-stop one-day admission enrollment procedure until the start of classes on June 6. The PWU [illegible] its 85th year and JASMS [illegible] its 50th founding [illegible] Dr. Fe Nie [illegible]

‘Do a good job, live a good name’

Renato O. Marzan
Managing Director for Corporate Governance and Legal Affairs
Ayala Corporation

BRILLIANT lawyers like Diokno, Salonga, and Roco who once graced the reputable Philippine Senate in the earlier years, inspired Renato O. Marzan to pursue the same profession.

"It was more of the nobility of the profession that attracted me to take up law," Marzan said.

For 32 years he played the role of an instrument of the law, 27 (and counting) of that spent with Ayala Corp.

"You really have to show your client that you are worth what they pay for you," he said. "There is always goodwill on the part of somebody who would say 'I have a good lawyer'."

Marzan dabbled in the different fields of the profession like criminal law, civil law, and labor law. Corporate and taxation interested him the most.

One of his former law professors was already connected with Ayala Corp, and as fate had it, that professor was actually looking for him. When he did find Marzan, he invited him to join the company. In 1978, Marzan became an assistant attorney for Ayala Corp.

Ayala is a conglomerate with many business interests. It gave Marzan the opportunity to practice his profession by handling various types of cases. He said there is not much difference between working in a law firm and being a corporate lawyer. The only thing that separates one from the other is that he has the corporation as his principal client.

When he graduated from handling litigation, labor, and contracts, he had the chance to participate as a member of the decision-making team of Ayala. As a lawyer, he takes part in a study group which endorses to the Board a business proposition.

"There are times when I don't think and work only as a lawyer but also as a part of the strategic team," he said. "That makes it more challenging because I can recommend the adoption of a project and investment."

The most challenging part of his job is making the conclusion that the company is in compliance with the laws and regulations governing the business, or in a nutshell, to keep its integrity intact.

Marzan cannot quantify the compensation of his job in terms of figures. For him, the reward is that at the end of the day he feels he did a good job.

"You will be rewarded in terms of your consideration for the company and is acknowledged as a good contributor to its success," he said. "By doing a good job, you live a good name."

He has this to say to those aspiring to be lawyers.

"When you take your oath as a lawyer, you become an instrument of the law. Do not aspire to be a lawyer if you would only prostitute the law. The problem in the legal profession has been caused by the weakness of good lawyers rather than the strength of bad lawyers. Always aspire to be a good lawyer who strongly adheres and promotes in practicing the objective of law." *Marlet D. Salazar*

‘Follow your heart’

Joseph Bustamante
Live Check Pilot
Southeast Asian Airlines

MAYBE one of the most envied professions is that of a pilot because he gets to travel the world. He meets a lot of people and learns different cultures. But the enticement of the sky is never an easy one, or doesn't even come cheap.

Captain Joseph Bustamante just wanted to run his own business, and unlike most kids he wasn't really that keen on becoming a pilot. But destiny had its plans for him.

While deciding what business-related course to take up, Bustamante's mother intervened and encourage him to try out aviation. After checking out two schools, he settled with Airlink.

"First, because it was relatively cheaper compared to other schools," he said. "And second, it offered a pioneering course on flying."

Of course, he also realized that field could offer a bigger compensation. Aside from that, the prestige of being called a pilot was really inviting.

"I realized that some people look up to you when you graduate from this course," he said.

Most of its lessons dealt with more mathematical analyses, calculation, study of weather, navigation, etc. For some these subjects may look complex but because his mind and heart was already set into becoming a pilot there wasn't much difficulty in school. From three classes in his batch they were down to only two when they graduated. He stated finances to some of the students' reasons for not completing the course.

Right after graduation, he was immediately employed as a ground instructor for Airlink. After a while he then worked as a flight instructor in the same school. This gave him the opportunity to try different types of aircraft as he was assisting the other students during their flight lessons. Four years were spent in that company and school until he applied for Seair in 1996.

For a start, Bustamante worked as a co-pilot. He assisted in navigation and communication. After a few months of training and familiarization he was promoted to the position of captain pilot.

His first experience in handling an aircraft was simply memorable.

"The feeling was more of happiness than of fear," he said.

But fear will always creep in from time to time. Like when there's a problem with the aircraft while they are airborne.

"You can always stop the car and fix it," he said.

Bustamante has two licenses, the commercial flight license which permits the pilot to operate commercial flights but is limited to daytime flying only, and the instrumental pilot license, which allows him to fly even at night.

Bustamante's career recently made a big wave. He was part of the team by Iren Dornier who made a world tour of the amphibian plane. As a co-pilot he was in charge of the flight planning, weather gathering and monitoring the safety standards of the trip.

He feels blessed to have made that decision in entering college. And he assures those who intends to become a pilot that after all the hardships, the experience of flying and being in charge of an aircraft is more than enough compensation. *Marlet D. Salazar*

‘Have the discipline of the ROTC’

From page K1

tion of the earning potential of a particular company for one year. And he tells people to invest."

By 8 a.m., Del Castillo meets with his staff. By 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the trading starts and he and his staff handles calls from clients.

"As an investment firm, we're restricted. We're not allowed to be a broker. We just advise our clients on where to put their investment. We're not only focused on the stock market, we also focus on fixed income such as government securities."

"If the stock market doesn't look good, we advise our clients to transfer to the fixed income portfolio. When the stocks make a good showing, then we advise them to transfer."

The rest of the day for Del Castillo is spent meeting with clients.

Becoming an investment analyst

Del Castillo took up a degree in agriculture economics at UP Los Baños. While in college, he got initiated in trading stocks. He describes himself as a "small trader" who buys IPOs of Petron and other high yielding stocks and sells them immediately.

After graduating from college, he worked for a while at UPLB. His entry into the trading and investment world came up when he took the job of an investment analyst at A and A Securities. From there, he learned the ropes and eventually went on his own.

Del Castillo attributes his success to the discipline he learned from ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps), the military training during college. "I like the discipline. I wake up early. I have respect towards my peers, initiative, sense of teamwork, and chivalry. These are admirable traits and I was able to translate them when I was already in the private sector. I initiate things out of the box."

Del Castillo is currently an army reservist, having the rank of a lieutenant. He's also very much involved in advocacy organizations.

Rewards of the job

Del Castillo says the investment analyst job is among the few jobs that are both "fun and profitable."

Through this job, Del Castillo was able to secure himself financially in a relatively short period of time. He was able to buy a condominium unit, a lot and put up a company and a gasoline station.

"I don't have much luxury in life, but I do consider myself financially stable." *Raquel P. Gomez*

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Classes Start June 6, 2005

The Philippine Women's University (PWU) continues to do its best to give educational services despite the current legal challenge we face. In line with our efforts to serve, enrollment at PWU-JASMS EDSA, Quezon City campus continues until the start of classes on June 6, 2005.

"In the meantime, we are working to resolve the legal challenge posed by Jardine Land, Inc. (JLI), which affects only half of the PWU-JASMS EDSA, Quezon City Campus which PWU-JASMS will continue to own and operate. With God's grace an amicable settlement will soon follow.

"We thank the students, parents, faculty, and alumni who remain confident that we will overcome challenges and continue to serve their educational needs. Despite challenges, we will continue to serve PWU-JASMS students as we have served for 50 years. With your stronger commitment and your support for a bigger enrollment, PWU-JASMS Q.C. will grow and prosper and build new facilities to serve you better for the next 50 years".

Dr. Amelou Benitez Reyes
University President

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'You can be a broker at any point in your life'

Cherith Domingo and Raquel Carmona
Real Estate Brokers

THE REAL estate industry is on the upswing nowadays. Project selling is moving (finally) and condominiums, not to mention resort-type residential buildings, are like mushrooms sprouting in the metropolis. Their prices run in the millions, but they're easily sold out. "How are they sold and why so fast?" are some of the questions you might ask.

Perhaps, real estate brokers can provide the answers.

Says Raquel Carmona, a real estate broker since 1998, "The job of a broker is very simple. It's just putting a buyer and a seller together. When I have a seller, I look for buyers. When I have a buyer, I look for what he needs—be it a house and lot, a townhouse, a condominium unit, etc."

But there's more than the buying and the selling in being a broker, says Carmona. Like her, it can be a rewarding career option for new graduates or for those who want to change profession as well.

A broker for Eastwood Property Holdings and Malayan Plaza, Carmona says anybody can be a real estate broker though a college degree is a must. All one needs is to pass the government licensing exams given by the Department of Trade and Industry, and that's it.

And what makes it easier to take this career is one can be a broker at any time in his life. Those who want to start a career in their midlife can also go into real estate brokering. There are no age requirements.

A broker works at his own pace and at his own time. He is his own boss and he could do his work at the comfort of his home.

For one to be successful, says Cherith Domingo, president of Real Estate Brokers Association of the Philippines (Rebap), all that is required are basic.

"You just have to know how to handle people and you also need to be serving. You also have to be prompt so you would earn the trust of your clients. Of course, hard work, sincerity, honesty, and love of your chosen career because this would motivate you to do things that would improve your craft. Actually, these are also the things that are required of you if you take an ordinary office job. But in real estate, the rewards are enormous," Cherith adds.

Cherith says brokers can also opt to be a member of a brokers' organization like the Rebap.

"There are lots of benefits if you sign up for Rebap. In the seminars that we conduct, brokers are taught how to network, how to get listings and how to get clients. And since you would be working with a lot of assistance from this group, this would make your life as a broker easier," explains Cherith.

What makes brokering a career to consider, Cherith says, income-wise, is that real estate brokering is really one of highest rewarding careers. Families can be well-provided—with house and lot, cars, better education, ample savings, travel finances or even a business of one's own. One is also able to meet people from all walks of life.

"If you're aggressive, you'll be able to get a lot of money. Even if you're just a new broker, you can initially go into project selling and you could already get a big business out of it," says Cherith, who's been in the industry since 1981. *Joel V. Nigos*

UE education yields topnotchers

NOW NEARLY 60 years strong, the University of the East has been providing affordable yet quality education, and has turned out hundreds of board exam top notchers.

Seven young UE graduates-turned-board exam topnotchers are the latest proof that UE is the key to the youth's bright future.

Donald Jerico B. Matriano from the UE College of Business Administration and a UE-Tan Yan Kee Foundation Inc scholar, ranked 3rd in the May 2005 Licensure Board Exams for Certified Public Accountants. The results also show that UE is the 2nd top performing school (with 100 or more examinees) in the May 2005 CPA board exams.

The UE College of Engineering also yielded two topnotchers: Sonny Kristoffer A. Lachica ranked 7th in the April 2005 ECE board exams, while Angelito R. Cortuna ranked 17th in the May 2005 CE Board Exams. The UE College of Engineering was also ranked 3rd top performing school (with 10 to 24 examinees) in the April 2005 Mechanical Engineering Board Exams. Fellow UE alumnus engineer Ronn Chester A. Baluyot earned 3rd in the November 2004 Civil Engineering Board Exams.

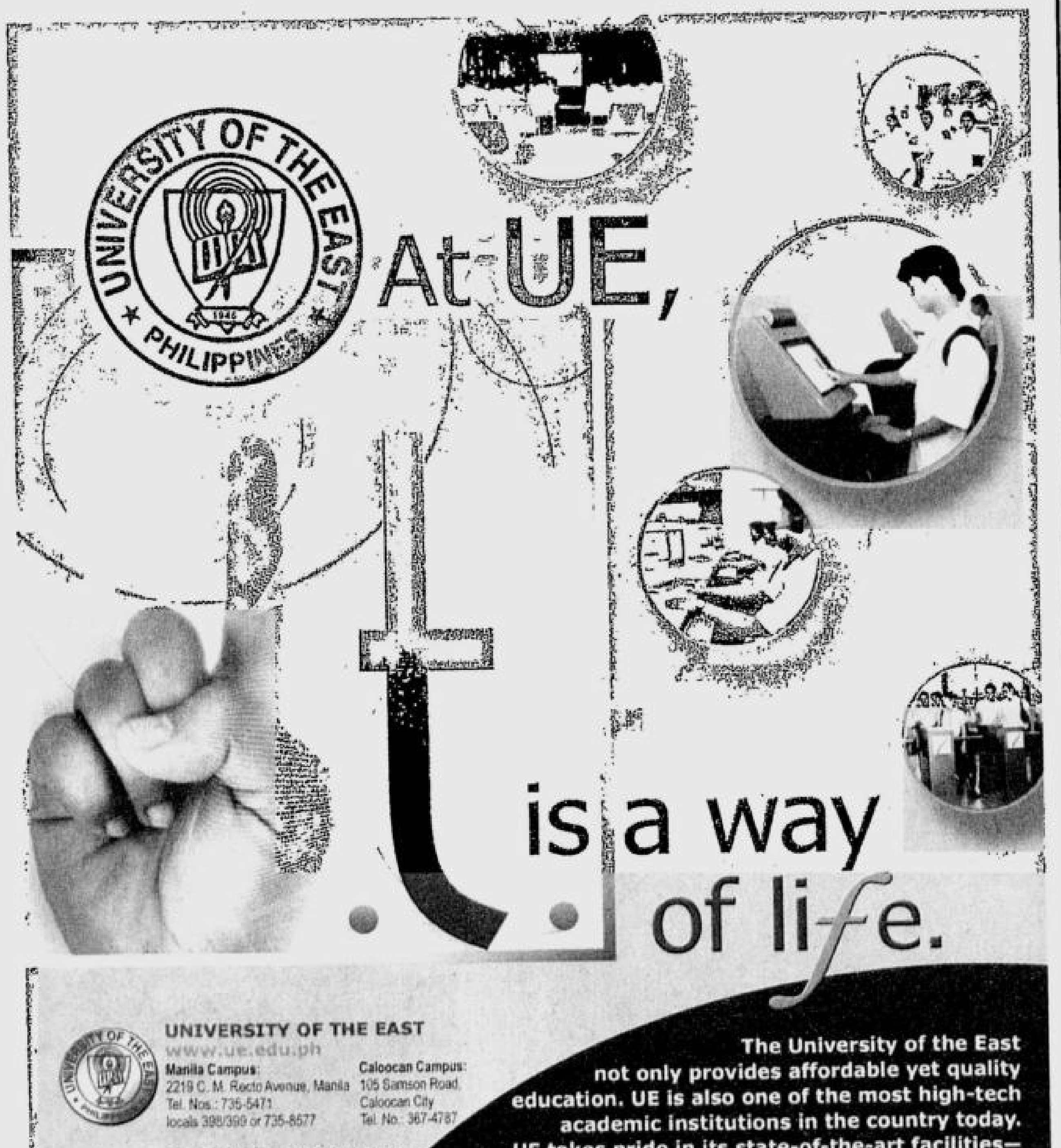
The College of Medicine of the UE Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center produced four topnotchers in the February 2005 Medical Board Exams: Dr. Michael Arden G. Perdon, 9th; Dr. Jane O. Francisco, 10th; Dr. Demuel Dee L. Berto, 14th; and Dr. Benjamin G. Francisco, 20th. This comes after the landmark feat of fellow UERMMMC graduate Dr. Karen L. Nielsen earned 1st place in the August 2004 Medical Board Exams.

UE has campuses in Manila, Caloocan City and Quezon City.

UE Manila features the University's Graduate School, Colleges of Law, Dentistry, Business Administration, Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Computer Studies and Systems, and Education.

UERMMMC, UE's Quezon City Campus, includes the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing and Physical Therapy, as well as the Graduate School.

For inquiries, call any of the campuses: UE Manila, 735-5471 to 82 local 398 or 399; UE Caloocan, 367-4787 or 367-4572/74/75/77/79; UERMMMC, 715-0861 local 7608 or 713-3315.



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The University of the East not only provides affordable yet quality education. UE is also one of the most high-tech academic institutions in the country today. UE takes pride in its state-of-the-art facilities—from smart IDs and electronic turnstiles to info kiosks, from multimedia rooms to Internet rooms, from advanced computer laboratories to multimedia presentation rooms. And with the advent of e-learning and continued tie-ups with global education partners, UE students are further assured of quality education that meets the demand of the times. No wonder that UE has been hailed as among the "Most Wired Universities in the Philippines" by *Enterprise* magazine and is the only educational institution in *Computerworld*'s "Premium 100" list of IT-using companies in the Philippines.

So when it comes to high-tech education, UE is IT.

'Excel in a particular . . .

From page K2

Job nature

As a plastic surgeon, Sanchez performs the repair or reconstruction of the face. "When a tumor is taken out of a jaw, I reconstruct the jaw by getting a bone in the leg, the fibula, and from it simulate a new jaw. I fix the new jaw with plate and screw and then I place it in the face, stitching the blood vessels with microsurgery."

This may sound too clinical to understand. To Sanchez, however, giving people a good-looking face through nose jobs or cleft lip repairs is an everyday affair.

As a kid, Sanchez dreamt of becoming a "hero," somebody who saved people like the superheroes he'd often watch on TV. Becoming a doctor is somehow a realization of that dream.

"Whatever your goal, you can guide yourself towards that. I always wanted to help and by being a doctor, I'm able to help people. By teaching what I know, I'm also able to help more people indirectly."

The goal of the job

Sanchez has spent about 12 years of serious study to get to where he is right now. His advice to students who would want to pursue a career in medicine is to have enough funding, patience, discipline and the constant thirst for more knowledge. Close to becoming a bookworm, a student of medicine must read. a lot of medical journals and books.

"The goal of medicine is to become excellent in a particular field. To be excellent, you have to focus on certain area or region of the body's system."

"The most important thing about medicine is the Hippocrates code that emphasizes on the duty of the doctor to save life." *Raquel P. Gomez*

'Great service amply rewarded'

Daisy Emperado
Agency Manager
Prudentialife Plans Inc.

ADMIT it or not, an insurance policy is one of the hardest if not the most difficult products to sell. It is even well-known in the industry that an insurance plan is not bought, it is sold.

This makes the job of an insurance agent a not so easy one. But maybe you're wondering why a lot of people are still lured into this profession.

The job of an insurance agent is basically selling insurance policies to clients. The agent asks them to pay now a service (or a future benefit) that would be rendered or given in the future. It entails a lot of dealing with people, convincing them how important it is to save for their future.

A would-be agent need not be a graduate of a specific course. A basic requirement is just for all prospective agents to finish the seminars given by their respective agencies. These seminars usually equip the agents with the necessary knowledge and skills needed to go about their profession.

Daisy Emperado, agency manager of Prudentialife Plans, shares that being an agent is a truly rewarding career. She says that one of the great rewards is being able to earn money as much as you could. Often, she adds, how much you make is proportionate to how much hard work you put into it.

"You can earn in a week's time, even in days, others are making in a month. And you don't even have to worry about being late or absent in the office because you are your own boss," she relates.

Daisy used to teach grade school pupils before becoming an agent. Though she believes that teaching is a very noble job, (she took elementary education), she eventually quit after two years and after finding out that being an agent was more financially rewarding.

"There was a time when I was still teaching and I was also selling insurance plans on the side. That early, I already made a lot of money in insurance," she shares.

She's now seven years in her profession and as agency manager she just loves her job. She shares that being an agent is not a job to be shunned, especially for new graduates. She says even high school graduates can be an agent, all one needs is to be knowledgeable and convinced about his job and the product that he sells.

As Daisy puts it, "Insurance selling is all about service. You do great service to your clients and you would be more than amply rewarded." *Joel V. Nigos*

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

A celebration of 20 years of music and friendship

IN 1985, a Summer String Workshop was held at the National Arts Center in Laguna. So many young musicians participated in the event that there was a need to form a program that catered especially to the development of these talented children. Thus, the Philippine Research for Developing Instrumental Soloists (Predis) was founded by Professor Basilio C. Manalo and Sister Mary Placid Abejo, OSB, the dean of St. Scholastica's College of Music. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Each year since then, Predis, with the help of its benefactor, Friends for Cultural Concerns of the Philippines, has produced accomplished young musicians with true passion for music. Scholarships have been given to students who have decided to pursue music in college. Most of these music graduates have continued their studies in prestigious music schools in Germany, San Francisco, and New York. Many products of Predis are now members of premier orchestras in the Philippines such as the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra, the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Manila Symphony Orchestra II. Some are also members of international orchestras such as the Asian Youth Orchestra and the Junessess Musicales Youth Orchestra. Quite a few Predis alumni have come back to teach and become mentors of a new generation of young Predis musicians. Other Predis students who have decided not to pursue careers in music have excelled in their chosen fields and have continued to cherish and appreciate their experiences as Predis students.

Every summer, Predis students come together to enjoy a summer workshop of music and fun. The old members keep on coming back because of their continued love for music while beginners join the Predis group to discover the beauty of music for the first time. In these workshops, the young musicians not only gain the confidence and skills to become superb soloists. They learn to cooperate and play as a group as well. Predis, for the children who have attended these summer workshops, has become synonymous not only with music, but also with fun and friendship.

In this year's concert, Sounds of Summer, young children will take the stage to play simple pieces. But, eventually, many will become accomplished musicians, performing more complicated pieces, just like the many Predis students before them. Predis has continually given young children in the Philippines a chance to realize their full potentials as musicians.

It's amazing how one summer workshop can start life long friendships and spark an endless passion for music.

The Philippine Research for Developing Instrumental Soloists (Predis) will be celebrating its 20th anniversary with Sounds of Summer, a culminating concert, today, 4 p.m., at St.Cecilia's Hall, St. Scholastica's College, Manila (SSC). Sounds of Summer will feature the different Predis groups- the Little Stars, Twinkle Stars, Children's Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, and the Children's Orchestra. The Predis is headed by Mary Grace B. Martinez, faculty of SSC String Department.

Children aged 5-17 participated in a six-week summer workshop on theory of music, solo performing, and group playing. Watch these young musicians share their passion for music as they perform works of Vivaldi, Bach, Umali and more.

Admission is free. For more inquiries, contact St. Scholastica's College at 526-80-80 or 524-76-86 to 89 loc. 288 and ask for Dimples.

EPLDT INAUGURATES NEWEST CALL CENTER

ePLDT inaugurated its newest and first regional call center subsidiary,Ventus Inc, which has an initial 300-seat capacity in Iloilo City. Shown during the inauguration ceremonies are (from left): Iloilo Supermart building owner Boy Que; DTI Iloilo Director Dads Cadena; DTI Region 6 Director Dominic Abad; Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Trenas ; Fr. Tomas Delicana, officiating priest; Geroge Kirby, site director, Teletech (Fort); Rose Montenegro, president, ePLDT Call Center; Albert Santos, site director, Parlance Systems Inc; Ken Lamzon, site director, Vocativ.

6th Non-life ICW starts May 23

THE 6th Non-life Insurance Consciousness Week (ICW) commences on May 23, Monday, and will culminate on Friday, May 27. The theme of this year's celebration focuses on "Ingatan ang Kabuhayan! Siguraduhin ang Kinabukasan".

The ICW is an annual event, started in 1999 under Presidential Proclamation and Executive Order 143, declaring the fourth week of May as such. This year's ICW promises to augment public awareness on the non-life insurance industry by educating, informing, and convincing the public on the importance of non-life insurance products and services. It's high time the public focuses its attention on the importance of insurance particularly in protecting them from the financial losses brought about by the impact of unforeseen events, accidents and calamities against their hard-earned assets. It is time the public realize, too, how this business called non-life insurance helps restore businesses and contribute to national development in terms of its investments and taxes.

ICW 2005 is spearheaded by the Philippine Insurers Club (PIC), in partnership with the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (Pira). .This year's ICW Organizing committee derives its strength and stability from the leadership of Michael F. Rellosa and Herminia S. Jacinto, of PIC and Pira, respectively.

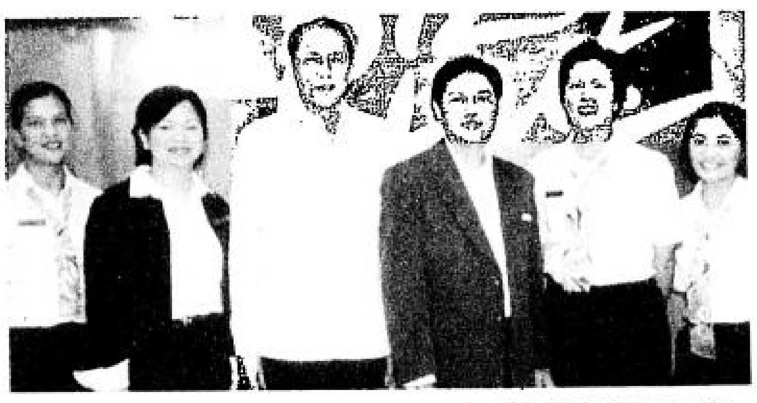
ICW 2005 is also supported by the Office of Insurance Commission (OIC) headed by Benjamin Santos. Other insurance associations that have added meaning and excitement to this year's celebration are the Association of Insurance Accountants in the Philippines (AIAP) Collection Association of Surety and Insurance Companies (Casin), Reinsurance · Exchange Club of the Philippines (RECP), Society of Insurance Underwriters (Sound) Philippine Association of Surety Underwriters, Inc. (Philassurers), General Insurance Agents Association of the Philippines (Giappi), Association of Insurance Claimsmen Inc (AICI), Brokers Association of the Philippines (BAP), Philippine Association of Insurance Liaison Officers (Pailo), Marine Tuesday Club (MAC), Junior Insurance Executive Circle (JIEC) and the Insurance Institute for Asia and the Pacific (IIAP).

The event kicks off on May 23 at 7:30 a.m. the Office of the Insurance Commission Compound, United Nations Avenue, Manila. The kick-off ceremonies will be led by Insurance Commissioner Benjamin Santos, followed by a ceremonial tree planting by the presidents and officers of the various associations within the non-life insurance industry. Other activities to look forward to include a fellowship night, badminton tournament, the Insurance Quiz Bee on 24 May 24, Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m. care of Precy Jimenez at tel. no. 840-9310 cell no. 0917-856-0266; a free skills enhancement seminar for agents on May 25, Wednesday, 1 to 5 p.m. care of Arlene Garcia at tel. no. 884-1234 loc. 2547/cell no. 0917-537-2483. For further inquiries, please call Cita at 633-9107.

Support the Insurance Consciousness Week 2005!

ATENEO AQUILA LEGIS FRATERNITY HOLDS FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE MISSION

The Aquila Legis Fraternity of the Ateneo de Manila University, in cooperation with Barangay San Lorenzo of the City of Makati, held a free legal assistance mission last Nov. 27, 2004 at Barangay Carmona Sports Complex in Makati. The whole day project was intended primarily to benefit members of the different Barangays of the City of Makati in line with the fraternity's dedication in uplifting the plight of our nation. It is only one of the numerous endeavors of the fraternity to complement their continuing Free Legal Aid Program. During the occasion, members of the fraternity who are in the legal practice as well as law students from all over the country participated and volunteered.



PIZZA HUT USHERS IN NOVEL DINING SENSATION

Pizza Hut, the world's no. 1 pizza chain, unveils a totally different concept in casual dining experience with the new Pizza Hut Bistro. Located at the upper ground floor of Gateway Mall in Araneta Center, it is the perfect leisure haven for discerning patrons. The Philippines has the distinction of opening the third and latest Pizza Hut Bistro in the world. The two other restaurants are based in Paris, France, and Soul, Korea. The uniqueness of Pizza Hut Bistro is matched by its wide array of appetizers and pasta choices, signature dishes, dessert and premium coffee concoctions. It has even whipped up a new line of mouthwatering dishes, which patrons can mix, and match with different wine and 'mocktails', the bistro's own version of popular cocktail mixes sans the alchohol. Adding allure to the place is its ritzy setting complemented by the first-class services from carefully selected and trained service team. Shown are Philippine Pizza Inc president Jorge Araneta (3rd from left) with the Pizza Hut Bistro management team.

NESTLE WATERS ADVOCATES WATER CONSERVATION

As a part of its commitment to responsible management of water resources, Nestle Waters has focused on environmental education as a key means to address water conservation. A firm believer in water education, focusing on young people as future water guardians, Nestle Waters has been actively supporting water education in the United States since 1984. This support has been extended to other countries, like Mexico and the Philippines, through Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) workshops and educational material. To become an accredited Project WET educator, call Center for Environmental Awareness and Education at 721-7360.

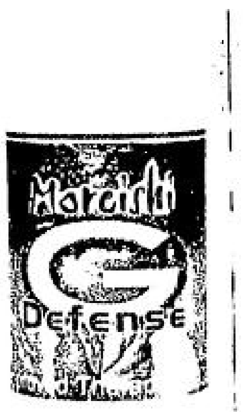
ProductFILES

Kids go loco over Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls

CHOCO CURLS
CHOCO CURLS

CURIOUS, precocious young tikes will surely be delighted to discover that their favorite cheesy treat now has a chocolately version: Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls. Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls is the ultimate snack for playful and free-spirited kids who are constantly on the run. With its just-right sweetness, soft bite and puffy texture, Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls are sure to add fun and excitement to their playtime. The newest addition to the Jack 'n Jill family is truly the ideal treat for kids as they discover the joys of munching and explore the wonders of this world. Kids of all ages can enjoy Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls' chocolately crunch or let them melt in the mouth just like a chocolate bar. Made with high grade puffy corn curls smothered in rich chocolate goodness, Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls are absolutely irresistible to kids and adults alike. So reward the kids and yourself with this yummy treat and experience the incredible choco blast in every pack of Jack 'n Jill Choco Curls, now available nationwide.

Three Gs: Herbal defense against stress and high blood pressure



MOREISHI has come up with another winning synergistic combination of herbs to help combat stress as well regulate high blood pressure and the other factors that contribute to it. Moreishi G-Defense contains three superb natural ingredients, which are known to help lower existing high blood pressure and cholesterol levels to a normal level, and promote general overall health. Gotu Kola is known for its ability to increase energy, improve memory, and ease anxiety and stress and also stimulate the central nervous system and rebuilds energy reserves that will help alleviate high blood pressure. Ginger is known for being a strong circulatory stimulant that helps to relax blood vessels, as well as for its anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and pain-relieving properties. Garlic has long been prescribed for high blood pressure. Dr. James Balch, in his book "The Super Anti-Oxidants," states that garlic acts as a super antioxidant, lowers blood pressure, boosts the immune system, balances blood sugar, prevents heart disease, assists in fat metabolism, and aids in cancer prevention. Moreishi Products are distributed by the Empower Group, are all registered with the Bureau of Food and Drug. For more information about Empower membership and their range of products, call (02)534-6843 or 532-8059.

EPHI UNVEILS THE ST. FRANCIS

Edsa Properties and Holdings Inc (Ephi), a member of the Kuok Group, has unveiled The St. Francis, the tallest residential condominium in the Mandaluyong Ortigas area. Ephi will utilize a comprehensive strategy that will integrate the 60-story twin tower condominium with the Shangri-La Plaza Mall and the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel. It will also be linked to the MRT Shaw Station thru the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. The project's estimated 1,200 units will be a combination of studio, one and two bedroom units. The groundbreaking rites was led by (from left) Tomas C. Zita Jr, Ephi president and board chair, Menchie Abalos, wife of Mandaluyong Rep. Benhur Abalos, and Mandaluyong City Mayor Neptali M. Gonzales II.

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'FUN FUTURE' PROMO GRAND DRAW WINNER

Richwell Trading Corp (RTC) marketing manager Arlette Capistrano (2nd from left), RTC brand manager for Vtech Adrian Justiniano (extreme left) and Lifetime Plans Inc (LPI) senior assistant vice president Manolo Quizon (2nd from right) pick-up the winners of the 'Fun Future' promo during the grand raffle draw held at the Richwell Building in Quezon City supervised by DTI representative Myra Rasgo (extreme right). The grand prize winner is Jasmin Paz Cobuin of Cubao, Quezon City who won a college educational plan worth P150,000 from Lifetime Plans.

INQUIRER

JOB Market

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CINEMA *(San Lazaro)*

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- Above average communication skills
- Computer literate

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS

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FOOD COURT *(Head Office/Makati/Megamall/San Lazaro)*
CINEMA *(San Lazaro/Head Office/Sta. Mesa)*
STORYLAND *(Fairview/San Lazaro)*

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- Computer literate

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or e-mail to jmm@smsupermalls.com

Assistant Financial Systems Analyst

Description of Responsibilities

The position provides functional support to Oracle Application system to ensure that users' requirements are met and the necessary internal control and documentation is addressed; reports directly to Head of Section in charge of Systems in Controller's Department (CTL). Specific responsibilities include.

1. Assisting in Oracle Application Modules including implementing system upgrades, by reviewing and analyzing users' requirements, identifying details gaps solutions, conducting fit analysis, communicating with Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST) on related technical requirements, and assisting users in testing and training before promoting to production environment;
2. Analyzing and trouble shooting systems errors/problems encountered by Oracle users with the assistance of OIST;
3. Providing training and post implementation support to functional users of the Oracle systems, including processors, verifiers and approvers;
4. Providing inputs to the Department's activities relating to systems'designs, users' requirements, etc. for new applications and related new projects;
5. Assisting in coordinating activities with different project teams throughout the project's implementation phases;
6. Arranging and attending meetings of assigned project teams, and preparing summary notes of minutes;
7. Assisting in reviewing business processes with a view to improve and enhance control and efficiency; monitoring project status and follow-ups with users and related parties to ensure timely implementation of project tasks;
8. Undertaking related system administration assignments as required;
9. Preparing draft status reports, correspondence, presentation materials, charts/graphs and other related documents and maintaining proper filing of project documentation;
10. Coordinating, facilitating, obtaining and providing required information in accordance with established procedures, in a tactful manner; and
11. Performing any other assignments as required, including preparation of draft memoranda and external correspondence for supervisor's review.

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Financial Control Specialist, Financial Systems and Control Section (CTAC-FSC), CTL.

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- A bachelor degree in Computer Science or Business Administration with major in Accounting; a Certified Public Accountant designation;
- At least five years experience in business application development, system designs and analysis, with a minimum of three years working experience with Oracle Application software package;
- Familiarity with application softwares such as Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Lotus Notes, Lotus Notes Mail, and in-depth knowledge with relevant working experience with Oracle system development and maintenance;
- Good interpersonal communication skills, and ability to supervise staff and promote team work;
- Good understanding of internal control concepts and business processes to facilitate the evaluation of risk assessment and control;
- Proficient understanding of general accounting concepts and principles, and the application thereof;
- Analytical, systematic and strong numerical skills, and attention to details;
- Excellent oral and written skills in English; and
- Ability to plan and coordinate schedules in order to meet deadlines.

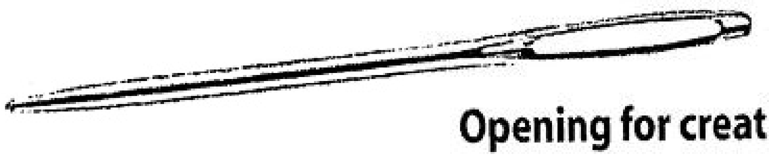
The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 60 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting Ref. No. EXT-AS05-058(4)-CTAC-FSC and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/applform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by 3 June 2005.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

www.adb.org

Asian Development Bank ADB
FIGHTING POVERTY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



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HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICERS

- Graduate of BS Psychology, Management, Economic or Business Management
- Preferably Female, Single/married, 25-28 years old
- At least 3 year experience in handling HR function in a manufacturing firm
- Knowledgeable of all HR functions such as Payroll, Recruitment, Compensation & Benefits etc.

Interested applicants encouraged to apply personally at:

The Human Resources Department
1 Pinesville St. cor. Katipunan Ave.,
Whiteplains Subd., Quezon City

TEACH IN THE U.S.

Our company is the local affiliate of R & B Staffing in Pennsylvania. We are currently conducting a pre-screening of qualified teachers for various teaching positions in the East Coast for School Year 2006-07.

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Minimum 2 years of teaching experience. A Bachelors Degree in Education major in Math or Science. An Excellent Command of the English language is a must.

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not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity; responsible for planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business; able to lead and motivate staff, and foster a team working environment

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER

not over 35 years old; graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course; male, must be 5'5 ½" & female, 5'2" in height; with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel; with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior; with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit; can exhibit flexibility in various work assignments, willing to be assigned to provincial branches and, and extend work hours

TREASURY OFFICER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 2 years supervisory experience in accounting, funds management or treasury functions; familiar with banking operations & Central Bank procedures

TRAINING OFFICER

not over 32 years old; graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course; with 2 years related work experience, possesses good presentation skills; knowledgeable in conducting training needs analysis, designing, implementing and evaluating of training programs and activities related to behavior and skill modification of employees

CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4 year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in sales and marketing, able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

COUNTER SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in cashiering operations, familiar with credit card and cash transactions; responsible for over-all supervision of personnel in the department

Interested parties may apply personally on May 28, 2005, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

at

SM City Cagayan de Oro
3rd Level, Mall Area

(Please bring resumé, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number / SSS Employment History print out and photocopy and original copy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

PNTC Colleges

Zone III, Lt. Cantimbuhan St., Poblacion Dasmariñas, Cavite
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INSTRUCTORS (English and Social Science)

- Holder of relevant bachelor's degree
- Preferably with Major in English
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- With at least one year teaching experience

BOOKKEEPER

- Accounting Graduate
- Preferably with 3 yrs. Experience in related field

Interested parties may mail or personally submit their resumé, 2x2 photo, transcript of records and other credentials to:
HRD 4/F Isabel Bldg. 870 España St. Sampaloc Manila

Hiring competent & hard working people for the following positions, preferably with working experience.

1. ***HR Personnel Manager***
2. ***Mechanical Engineer***
3. ***Accounting Clerk***
4. ***Executive Secretary***
5. ***Brand Managers***

Please apply directly on any of the following dates:

May 28, 2005 (Saturday) 9:00 AM / June 04, 2005 (Saturday) 9:00 AM

At this address...

130 4th St. bet. 10th & 11th Avenue
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CHANNEL MANAGERS

Qualifications

- A bachelor's or master's degree in computer science, business administration, commerce or engineering
- 3 to 5 years in Channels Management and dealing with indirect/ direct sales channels at all levels
- Strong business acumen, ethics and high integrity
- Excellent oral and written English communication skills

Main duties

- Identify, qualify and develop sales channels and channel sales partners to achieve assigned quota and/or exceeding assigned quota and revenue objectives
- Conduct regular sales forecasting meetings; account planning and other related sales tasks with Channel Partners to grow assigned business profitably
- Thoroughly analyze and understand current and potential Channel Partner needs and objectives in order to successfully determine the appropriate solution and create compelling sales positioning capitalizing on the strengths that will meet those needs and objectives.
- Develop and implement sales channels policies and procedures.
- Conduct sales training and develop marketing plans with Channel Partners
- Provide follow-up with sales channels to ensure satisfaction with channel programs and customer satisfaction with products and services.
- Assume responsibilities for channel revenue growth in assigned region.
- Source and stay abreast of competitive industry and market intelligence, providing feedback to support recommendations and to identify developing opportunities.

Qualified applicants may e-mail their detailed resume with recent photo to tson@ati-international.com *or send to:*

Assessment Technologies Institute International. Inc.
Unit 101 Jollibee Plaza, P. Ortigas Jr. Road
(formerly Emerald Avenue) Ortigas Centre, Pasig City
Atttention: Ms. Tania Son

Urgently needed

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

Qualifications

- BS Accountancy graduate
- Knowledge of Peachtree software
- Highly proficient in MS Excel
- Can work with minimum supervision and under pressure
- Highly organized, can adapt to fast-paced work environment

E-mail comprehensive resume with recent photo and transcript of records to* jbonifacio@vetyard.com *or FAX to 633-49-62

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Suite 2205-B, 22nd Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre
Tektite East Tower, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos.: 634-0741 to 45 Fax No.: 634-0736

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- **INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER**
- **ELECTRICAL ENGINEER**
- **ACCOUNTANT**
- **CHEF**

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Tel: 413-3333 interview starts at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday May 24, 2005

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Management Trainee

- Female, 22-25 years old
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HR/Training Assistant

- Female, not more than 25 years old
- Graduate of Behavioral Science or any related course
- Can prepare and execute training modules
- At least one year exposure in same nature of work
- Articulate and computer literate

Purchasing Assistant

- Female, 24-27 years old
- Graduate of Business course w/ units in accounting
- Experience in same position is required
- Computer literate and has good communication skills

OTHER POSITIONS: ACCOUNTING STAFF, TEAM MEMBER/CREW

Interested applicants are requested to apply and submit their resumé with recent 2x2 picture and other credentials at:

Chessecake, etc.
Suite 2002, 20th The Orient Square Bldg.
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City
Tel. Nos. 687-0859 or 687-1685

*previous applicants need not apply

TELESALES / TELEMARKETING REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications:

- Female, 25-35 years old
- Bachelor degree in Business or Marketing preferred
- 3-5 years telemarketing / sales experience
- Ability to speak Chinese, though not essential would be an advantage

Requirements:

- Great Communication Skills
- Knowledge in basic arithmetic
- MS Excel and Words proficient
- Superior follow-up skills
- Effective interpersonal skills
- Personable character
- Computer literate

Send your resumé / application to:

Triplex Enterprises Inc.
2255 Don Chino Roces Ave.
Makati City, Philippines
Beside Makati Cinema Square

Look for Ms. Julie Buen or Ms. Loret Orito

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A chemical firm engaged in Sales of Preventive Maintenance Chemicals, Lubricants, and Special Paints is in need of:

(10) MARKET SPECIALIST:

- Female not more than 27 years old with pleasing personality
- Graduate of any course (graduates of business related course would have a definite advantage)

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The successful candidate must value the importance of long-term career profession, willing to handle work in a pressure-filled atmosphere, goal-oriented and self-motivated, and with efficient communication skills.

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SUCCESSFUL applicants will be CALLED for interview.

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A **BANK** IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING FOR ASSIGNMENT IN THE *CALABARZON AREA*

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- Must have real estate marketing background and experience
- Preferably with legal background
- Must have the ability to manage in-house and marketing people
- Must be energetic and with good analytical ability

CREDIT REVIEW OFFICER

- Must have knowledge and background in Credit Administration and Loans Packaging, Collection, and Remedial Management
- Must have good analytical ability
- Must have good communication skills, both oral and written
- Willing to travel

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER

- Computer Science Graduate
- Technical Skills Experience: WINDOWS NT/2000 Server; WINDOWS 98/ME/XP; MS OFFICE; MS Access; SQL Server; Visual Basic; Networking (WAN/LAN) knowledge
- With at least 2 years programming experience
- Has a strong background in IT and MIS Operations
- Programming experience in an IT environment of banks is an advantage
- Willing to cooperate with others and function as an effective team player
- Willing to work beyond regular working hours

Send you resume at email address mehd_ph@yahoo.com

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FULL-TIME WRITER / EDITOR

- Must have news writing/ editing experience
- Have high analytical, comprehension skills
- Excellent English communication, grammar skills
- Proficient in typing and PC use
- Can work evenings, with daily deadlines
- Residents of Makati City have a definite advantage

SYSTEMS & NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

- Expert on Linux servers and PC networking
- Knowledgeable in PHP programming
- Willing to work evenings (6 days a week, including weekends)
- Can communicate in English with other IT officers and non-technical people

E-mail resumé, including expected salary range (in .txt format) to newslink@i-manila.com.ph

The Environments Collaborative

urgently needs

SENIOR ARCHITECT

Job Code: SEA

He shall be responsible for over-all conceptualization and design development of architectural projects. He shall likewise oversee production of contract documents, detailing and specifications writing. He shall also be responsible for coordination with clients and consultants (MEPS) from conceptual to contract stages to ensure architectural design intent is maintained. He shall be in-charge of final review, quality control and timely submission of project deliverables.

- College degree in architecture
- Professional registration required
- At least 10 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Design-related computer literacy and proficiency required
- International exposure an advantage
- Must be willing to travel abroad
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required
- Strong leadership qualities, managerial and organizational skills an advantage

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Job Code: PRC

He shall be responsible for over-all coordination with Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing/Fire Protection and Structural engineering consultants (MEPS) from conceptual to contract stages. He shall be in-charge of design review, quality control and timely submission of project deliverables of MEPS consultants.

- College degree in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering
- Professional registration required
- At least 7 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Design-related computer literacy and proficiency required
- International exposure an advantage
- Must be willing to travel abroad
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required

JUNIOR ARCHITECT/DETAILER

Job Code: JUA

He shall assist senior architect in conceptualization, design development and in managing production of contract documents and specifications writing, as well as, plan review and quality control. He shall be primarily responsible for production of construction details. He shall also be in-charge of all communications, documentation of meetings and other administration concerns with client and consultants.

- College degree in architecture
- Professional registration preferred
- At least 7 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Proficiency in Autocad 2004/2005 required
- International exposure an advantage
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required

PROJECT OFFICER

Job code: PRO

He shall be responsible for construction supervision/inspection. He shall undertake project management and shall ensure design quality control during project implementation.

- College degree in Electrical Engineering
- Professional registration preferred
- Exposure in construction & fit-out preferred
- International exposure an advantage
- Computer literacy and proficiency prefer

JOB CAPTAIN

Job Code: JOC

He shall be responsible for managing schedule and manpower allocation in the production of contract documents. He shall also undertake quality control in sheet composition, content and consistency in CADD standards.

- College degree in architecture
- Professional registration preferred
- At least 5 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation required
- Proficiency in Autocad 2004/2005 required
- Excellent communication skills required

CADD DESIGNER

Job Code: CAD

He shall be primarily responsible for generating construction details and working drawings.

- College degree in architecture
- At least 3 years experience in high-rise design and construction documentation an advantage
- Proficiency in Autocad 2004/2005 required
- Proficiency in modeling and graphic/rendering software an advantage

CLIENT SERVICES OFFICER

Job Code : CSG-1

He shall be responsible to perform duties in the areas of business development, client maintenance, market research, and public relations. He shall be responsible to deliver company presentations, develop client accounts, and identify client project requirements.

Qualifications

- Male or female, 26-33 years old
- College degree
- At least 5 years experience in sales and marketing is required, experience handling corporate accounts is an advantage
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills required
- Has the ability to deliver company presentations, very articulate
- Interest in design and architecture an advantage

Please submit your resumé on or before June 15.
PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY.

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College grad w/ knowledge in personnel & administrative work; experience in theater production/operations or events management preferred; excellent in oral & written communication

PRODUCTION MANAGER

College grad w/ experience in professional theater productions; can work irregular schedules; responsible, orderly and systematic; can meet work deadlines; good in written & oral communication; knowledge in Photoshop, an advantage

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

College grad w/ experience in sales & marketing; w/ extensive business contacts; result-oriented; honest; w/ good people skills; good in oral & written communication

Send/e-mail resumé to:
Tanghalang Pilipino
2/F PDC Bldg., CCP Complex,
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
Tel: 832-1125 loc.1620/1621
tanghalanprod@yahoo.com

WANTED

CIVIL ENGINEERS

☐ at least 2 years work experience
☐ knowledgeable in any one of the following
  Foundation works/Civil Works
  Land development
  Steel Erection

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

☐ With at least 2 years work experience overhauling diesel engines and repairing heavy equipment

HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC

☐ with at least 2 years work experience overhauling diesel engines and repairing heavy equipment

AUTO ELECTRICIAN

☐ with experience in repair of electronics

CRANE OPERATORS

BACKHOE OPERATORS

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

☐ with experience in sales and marketing
☐ must be willing to do field work

ACCOUNTING CLERK

☐ with experience in preparation of financial statements

H.R. MANAGER

☐ with at least 5 years work experience

Apply in person or Submit your resumé at 1255 Edsa, Quezon City (between Muñoz and Cloverleaf Market)

SALES SUPERVISOR

Male, graduate of any engineering course with architectural background. At least 3 years experience in Supervisory level. With pleasing personality and above average communication skills

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Male / Female , grad of any eng'g course, 24-30 yrs old, with good communication skills and pleasing personality

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Female, Preferably Accounting graduate but not necessary

Apply personally together with your Comprehensive Resume, Transcript of Records & (2) 2x2 ID picture. Hiring starts on May 23, 2005 at:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
SOLANDA ENTERPRISES, INC.
Anda cor. Magallanes St., Intramuros, Mla.
527-8261 / 527-8791

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Successful candidate will be tasked to organize and enforce the documentation requirements in Sales & Marketing Department; which includes policy enforcement in personal and bank guranty for clean credit lines, contract exclusivity and contact for projects. A strong communicator, conscientious with paper works, demands accuracy and with deep appreciation for sales and marketing performance. A graduate of B.S.C.-Marketing and/or 4 year Business related courses. At least five- (5) year experience in the same capacity.

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He will be tasked to develop distributors network and system that will effetively service the customers. Must have at least 2 years selling experience in fast moving consumer products, with knowledge in product presentation and collection. A graduate of Business Admin./Eng'g courses. Keen and analytical with excellent interpersonal & leadership skills, highly motivated, articulate and self-starter, willing to travel, can speak fookien language is an advantage.

PROJECT OFFICER

B.S. Architecture or B.S. Civil Eng'g. graduate, with at least 2 years experience in project development and construction, can effectively interacts with architects and engineers. Excellent in oral and written communication, with proficiency in windows application, willing to travel, aggressive, innovative, goal oriented.

A compatitive remuneration package and benefits awaits successful candidates, interested parties are advised to send comprehensive resumé with picture and photocopy of TOR to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
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Km. 54 Makiling, Calamba City
Tel. #(049) 545-1868/545-2449 Fax #(049) 545-2314/545-2413
Email-fel-an@softhome.net

URGENT NEED

The leading proponent of Fair Trade in the country is looking for committed and qualified people to handle the following positions:

Finance and Accounting Manager

- Certified Public Accountant
- With more than 5 years successful experience in managing finance and accounting matters
- Flexible and a Team-player
- Trustworthy with good people management skills
- Capable of handling basic training modules on accounting and bookkeeping

Training Supervisor

- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Psychology, Education or related sciences.
- With more than 3 years successful training experience
- Excellent people management skills
- Flexible, Team-player, and can work under pressure
- With experience in training module development
- Capable of handling basic trainings on PPC and Product Development

Kindly send your resume to **jrdelacruz@apfti.org.ph** or to **pftqc@apfti.org.ph** or you can send it by fax to **(02) 454-1567** not later than May 26, 2005.
We will only respond to qualified applicants.

---

sportshouse

is in need of a team of dynamic and aggresive individuals for the following positions:

Accounting Head / Supervisors / Purchasing Assistants / Marketing Assistants

Accounting Head:

✓ Female
✓ Accounting graduate
✓ 25-35 years old
✓ With 2 (two) years experience on the same capacity
✓ Knows how to prepare Financial report
✓ Possesses good working attitude and is proactive
✓ Willing to do multi-task when needed

Supervisor:

✓ Male or Female; at least 5'6" for male and 5'3" for Female and college graduate
✓ Preferably single; willing to be assigned in any branch
✓ 25-32 years old
✓ Physically fit
✓ Analytical and with good numerical skills
✓ With experience in handling a retailing business on the same capacity for at least 2 (two) years
✓ Willing to do multi-task when needed

Purchasing Assistant:

✓ Male; at least 5'3" and college graduate
✓ With 1 (one) year purchasing experience
✓ Willing to do multi-task

Marketing Assistant:

✓ Female, at least 5'3" and college graduate
✓ with 1 (one) year marketing experience
✓ Willing to do multi-task

Please mail your resumé with 2x2 picture at:

Sportshouse Training Department
c/o LINO's Restaurant 3rd Floor Ali Mall
Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City
Previous applicants need not apply
We will only reply to qualified applicants

Opening for suits

We're looking for account service pros who know how to hang tight, hang loose and gladly die a thousand deaths for their chosen career.

Group Account Director 10-year vet with experience crafting savvy strategies and implementing through-the-line campaigns for various brands and categories.

Account Director Proven client darling who dares sell brave ideas and executions. Minimum 5 years on the job, preferrably on FMCG accounts.

Account Executive Smart, hardworking upstart. Familiar with the rigors of Agency life --- writing briefs, managing schedules, meeting clients --- but loving it still.

Please send your CV to **hr141.manila@141worldwide.com**. If you're who we're looking for, then don't worry. We won't keep you hanging.

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as Marketing Assistant for
THE COLUMBIA GARDEN RESIDENCES
Lot 4, Block 9, Commonwealth Avenue, Q.C.
Two years of college; fluent in oral English and Tagalog; proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel; capable of making decisions; pleasing personality; preferably a woman.
Send biodata to above address
or email to cybelean_properties@yahoo.com

Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila School
is in need of:

High School, Grade School and Preschool Teachers
(English, Science, Kindergarten)

You may personally apply with your resumé.
Ph1 Vista Verde Executive Village, Imelda Ave., Cainta

MANAGERIAL

PRISM
PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Scope of Work

Market Development Director

Background:

The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, *Desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved*, focusing on three components: 1) increased workplace support for FP services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass market brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among private practice providers.

The market development component (component 2) of the project is intended to increase recognition of business opportunities in the hormonal FP commodities market in the Philippines and to motivate businesses to take advantage of those opportunities. The Market Development Director will be responsible for developing and implementing activities to accomplish these objectives.

General Tasks:

1. Review the project technical proposal and other relevant background documentation, including USAID/Philippines strategic plan, documents from other relevant projects in the Philippines (past and present) such as CMS, research results on marketing programs and initiatives, the project's 1st annual work plan (when completed), DHS reports, etc.
2. Participate in annual project work planning processes and prepare market development component annual plans.
3. Work with the Finance and Administrative Officer to prepare annual market development component activities budgets.
4. Coordinate with the Workplace and Private Practice Directors to identify and capitalize on potential synergies in project strategy development and implementation across components.
5. Collaborate with the M&E Specialist to monitor and evaluate market development component activities.
6. Work with the MIS Specialist to develop and maintain a database of FP commodity sales, and forecasts of future sales, across the public, social marketing and commercial sectors by type and brand.
7. Prepare and submit required project reports on time.
8. Work with the Communications Officer to develop and implement public relations campaigns to inform project stakeholders about the project, its aims and purposes.
9. Work with the Gender Specialist to ensure that gender perspectives are properly incorporated into all market development component activities.
10. Work with other technical and management staff to develop approaches and strategies to anticipate, prevent and counteract potential opposition to project activities from social forces such as faith-based groups.
11. Complete other tasks and assignments as deemed appropriate by the Chief of Party.

Specific Tasks

Component 1: Workplace

1. Support market development inputs to ensure availability of affordable contraceptives for distribution to workplace programs and services.
2. Work with the Workplace Director to support companies managing work place initiatives to institute cost recovery mechanisms where necessary.
3. Work with the Workplace Director to support companies to analyze the cost benefits of provision of FP services through producing cost benefit calculators.

Component 2: Market Development

1. Supervise and oversee activities of the Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao Market Development Managers to implement all strategies and activities listed in the Market Development Director's scope of work
2. Work with the Workplace and Private Practice Directors and the Associations Liaison Officer to maintain close working relationships with the associations of manufacturers, distributors, health providers and pharmacists engaged in the project.
3. Establish and maintain close working relationships with DKT, manufacturers, importers, and distributors of FP commodities.
4. Establish and maintain a working relationship with the LEAD project to obtain information about business opportunities to market contraceptives to LGUs for distribution through public sector outlets.
5. Ensure that information about LGU business opportunities and other business opportunities such as midwife entrepreneurs and private practice providers flows to contraceptive manufacturers and distributors.
6. Assist manufacturers and distributors to define strategies to take advantage of business opportunities, particularly with respect to introduction of new brands or methods, and pricing.
7. Work with the BCC Advisor to develop mass media programs and campaigns to generate demand for private sector FP products and services, including motivating movement of non-poor FP clients from public to private sources and among new users.
8. Work with the Policy/Advocacy Advisor to define and manage a public relations /advertising component with respect to policy and regulatory change important to commercial manufacturers, importers and distributors.
9. Establish and manage a relationship with DKT, and provide technical assistance to promote progress towards sustainability of their product line without donor subsidies.
10. Work closely with the Policy and Advocacy Advisors to identify policy issues relating to the private sector FP manufacturers, distributors and to the advertising and promotion of FP products and services, and assist to implement policy initiatives.
11. Work with the Financing Advisor to develop and manage relationships with national health insurance organizations to expand coverage of FP products and services.

Component 3: Private Practice

1. Support market development inputs to ensure availability of affordable contraceptives for distribution to midwives and private practice providers participating in project activities.
2. Work with the Private Practice Director to develop and manage the signage, materials and marketing requirements of the midwives component.
3. Work with Private Practice Director to implement project activities to motivate distributors' sales forces (detail men) to encourage private practice physicians to prescribe and/or sell contraceptive products.
4. Work with the Private Practice Director to supply marketing inputs to the work of health provider associations to promote FP provision to their members.
5. Provide technical advice and support to the Private Practice Director and the Pharmacy Advisor for development and implementation of a program to support improved counseling and sales of FP products through drug stores.

Reporting:

The Market Development Director will report directly to Chemonics' Chief of Party or his designee, who will be responsible for monitoring the director's overall performance.

Qualifications:

- With at least 20 years of experience in marketing of products in the commercial healthcare industry
- With at least 15 years managerial experience
- Preferably with masteral degree
- Excellent in written and oral communications
- Proficient in Word, Excel, Powerpoint

Interested applicants should e-mail their application letter and CV at jobs@prism.org.ph on or before 25th of May 2005.

A progressive member of the printing industry committed to deliver quality information and educational materials using state-of-the-art technology with the highest degree of competence and professionalism, is ucrrently in need of a highly qualified applicant to fill the position of:

ASST. PRODUCTION MANAGER

- Male
- At lest 35 years old
- Graduate of Industrial or Mechanical Engineering, preferably licensed
- Must have relevant experience, at least in a supervisory level gained from a printing company
- Must be familiar with all aspects of print production

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumés to:

P.O. Box 2933 MCPO, Manila
or call 5278351 to 55 local 232 for inquiries

Philippine TIPS
TUBERCULOSIS INITIATIVES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Philippine Tuberculosis Initiatives for the Private Sector (Philippine TIPS), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under USAID Contract Number 492-C-00-02-00031 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International Inc., is in need of an expert to fill in the position described below:

Demand Generation Specialist (1)

Qualification Requirements:

o Minimum of five years' experience in progressively responsible position related to demand generation/market development, community mobilization, and/or marketing communications.
o Proven track record in successful development and implementation of innovative promotions, marketing communications, and community mobilization programs.
o Experience working with or for a health service facility, such as clinic, hospital or networks of these facilities. Related experience in the service sector preferred.
o College degree in areas relevant to the work above (sociology, psychology, marketing, communication, etc.) required. Masteral units/degree in related area/s preferred.
o Team player with leadership skills, experienced in coordinating with officials in the public and private sectors.
o Strong strategic, creative, analytical and problem-solving skills.
o Excellent writing, oral and presentation skills required.
o Experience working on an international donor-funded program preferred.

Qualified applicants are requested to send your expression of interest and resumé to mcaldoza@philips.com on or before May 31, 2005

MSH LEAD

The Local Enhancement and Development (LEAD) for Health Project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH), aims to strengthen local government provision and management of family planning (FP) and selected health services (Vitamin A/MCH, TB, and HIV/AIDS), and to improve the policies and financing for these services. The Project will seek to improve the capacity of local government units (LGUs), particularly in cities and municipalities, to meet the needs of their constituents, especially the poor, for FP, TB, MCH, and HIV/AIDS.

The LEAD for Health Project is a three-year contract between USAID and MSH that ends on September 30, 2006. There are two 2-year optional extension periods.

MSH is currently seeking qualified candidates to fill in the position of:

REPORTING AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION SPECIALIST

Duty Station is Manila, Philippines.

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Reporting and Information Dissemination (RID) Specialist will manage the implementation of the Project's integrated communication strategy. S/He will work with the Project Performance Monitoring Unit (PPMU) Director and technical staff to identify key audiences and determine the best means of sharing program successes, best practices, and lessons learned on a regular basis. Targeted audiences will include project partners and supporters (Department of Health, USAID) as well as the media and key government, academic, and private sector leaders. The RID Specialist will also be responsible for establishing communication links with the media, partners, and collaborators. S/He will work with the Resource Documentation (RD) Specialist in developing and maintaining a publications dissemination system and will be responsible for reviewing and disseminating project publications, presentations, materials, and technical reports. Lastly, s/he will regularly review and update the Project's communications strategy to ensure that it reflects current needs. The RID Specialist will report directly to the PPMU Director.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Support the Project in reviewing all project reporting documents submitted to USAID and oversee and coordinate timely reporting to various agencies, including USAID.
2. Support the Chief of Party (COP) in establishing and coordinating lines of communication with counterparts at USAID and the Department of Health.
3. Ensure all information requests that are received by the Project are responded to and catalogued.
4. Develop and supervise the maintenance of the publications dissemination system.
5. Develop standard presentation and publications development templates and train staff in their use.
6. Serve as primary editor and reviewer of project publications, presentations, materials, and technical reports.
7. In collaboration with the RD Specialist, manage the development of a comprehensive project website, serve as key content developer, and oversee design and maintenance aspects of the website.
8. Develop and promote all project successes through print, electronic, and other media.
9. Coordinate with the technical staff and work as a team to implement a broad-based project communications strategy and ensure key successes are communicated with USAID and other key audiences.
10. Ensure that the Project's writing and document production standards and procedures are followed for technical accuracy and editorial quality of all project-related publications.
11. Serve as lead manager of project annual report and ensure timely and quality production and dissemination.
12. Collaborate with the PPMU Director and other technical staff in the conceptualization, writing, packaging, and distribution of project-related technical papers, manuals, and newsletters.
13. In collaboration with technical staff, manage seminars and other outreach programs to share with the public the Project's work.
14. Regularly review and update the Project's communication strategy to ensure that it reflects current needs.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. Extensive journalism or public relations experience
2. Strong writing skills
3. Demonstrated excellent interpersonal and assertive management skills
4. Prior experience working with health and development programs helpful
5. Computer skills in Microsoft Office programs.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their application letter, with a comprehensive resume showing details of their work experience, academic background, and references not later than May 27, 2005 through any of the following:

Mail : Suite 1101 Ma. Natividad Building
470 T. M. Kalaw Avenue corner Cortada Street
Ermita, Manila

Fax : (632) 521-0950

RFC RADIOWEALTH FINANCE CO., INC

We are looking for dynamic & highly competent individuals to strengthen our expanding operations in the financing industry.

HUMAN RESOURCE SUPERVISOR

Female, 25-30 years old / Bachelor's degree in Accountancy required with 3-5 years relevant work experience / Knowledgeable with government mandated benefits such as SSS, Pag-ibig & Philhealth, Salaries & Benefits Administration / Personable with above average interpersonal skills / Proficient in oral & written communication / Computer literate

MARKETING SUPERVISOR

Female, 25-30 years old /Graduate of any four year course /With 3 yrs working experience in Sales & Marketing / Background in Multi Level Marketing (if possible) / Background in branch relationship or group coordination in any industry / Knowledgeable in Program Development (if possible)/ Personable with excellent communication & interpersonal skills / Computer literate / Willing to travel

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER

Male / 23-27 years old / BS Computer Science or any IT-related course with two years relevant work experience / Personable with above average interpersonal skills / Proficient in oral & written communication

HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANTS

Female, 21-25 years old / Single / BS Psychology or Behavioral Science Graduate with commendable scholastic records / Personable with above average interpersonal skills / Proficient in oral & written communication / Computer literate

JUNIOR AUDITORS / ACCOUNTING CLERKS

Male/Female, 21-27 years old / BSC Accounting or BS Accountancy graduate with commendable scholastic records / Personable with above average interpersonal skills / Proficient in oral & written communication / Computer literate / Willing to travel & be assigned in the provinces (for Junior Auditors)

Please send your resume with a 2 x 2 photo and a brief description of your current work & salary or apply personally at :

Personnel & Administration Dept.
2/F Guevent Bldg., 52 Libertad St., Mandaluyong City
Tel No. 531-2354 email : pad@rfc.guevent.ph
Visit our website at www.rfc.guevent.ph

(Previous applicants need not apply)

"eCODE Inc. is a start up IT Company which provides programming and encoding services for clients in the US."

Position: Operations Manager

Job Description:

The candidate will have overall responsibility for managing the smooth flow of operations of a team of billing specialists, particularly in meeting clients' expectations. This position leads a team of shift supervisors to ensure that all training and development needs of the operations staff are met. He/she shall, likewise, oversee the activities of the other depts. in the company including Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. It requires graveyard shift schedule.

Qualifications:

2-5 years managerial experience pref. in a medical transcription/call center company. Excellent leadership, highly analytical and with good problem-solving skills. Able to operate independently and in consultation with top management Highly proficient in software applications (Excel, Access).

Please send your resumé and transcript of records to:
recruitment@ecode.com.ph

WWWExpress

Wide Wide World

an affiliate of

DHL

urgently needs the following:

SECURITY MANAGER (Manila-based)
(CODE: SSMGR)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Responsible for formulating, implementing and monitoring safety and security rule, regulations, procedures, programs, and plans. Ensures the full protection of all WWW Express Corporation personnel, assets, properties, facilities and equipment nationwide, including shipments entrusted by clients.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Preferably Male, Degree in Business, Criminology or related field.
- At least 3 years experience within a corporate security background at management level.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to establish and maintain excellent relations with a wide variety of individuals and organizations.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, with the ability to write reports.
- Flexible to work outside office hours, including weekends, when required.
- Computer literate
- Physically fit and of good moral character.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS SPECIALIST (Manila-based)
(CODE: C&B)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Responsible for the planning, guiding, coordinating, and controlling of the Job Evaluation, Salary Design and Benefit Design, continuous review and evaluation of existing benefits, compensation and other related areas. Conducts studies linked to compensation administration and benefits planning and management. Sees to it that job functions are reviewed and updated.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Male / Female, not more than 30 years old.
- Graduate of Psychology, Statistics, Mathematics, or any business and finance course.
- With proven relevant work experience in HR-C&B areas.
- Highly proficient in using MS Office applications, particularly MS Excel, and other MS Office programs. Knowledgeable in software programming is an advantage.
- With above average communication skills (written and spoken).
- Can interact with people regardless of organizational level.
- Hardworking and can work effectively with minimum supervision.
- Physically fit and of good moral character.

IMPORT-EXPORT SUPERVISOR (Manila-based)
(CODE: IMPEX SPVR)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Responsible in organizing, leading, and monitoring WWWExpress' Seafreight Import and Export activities. Ensures compliance with the standard operating procedures and government regulations. Sees to it that excellent quality of service is extended to all clients.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Male, College graduate with at least 2 years supervisory experience in seafreight operations.
- Must be able to demonstrate positive customer relations
- Hardworking and can work effectively with minimum supervision
- Can effectively communicate with people at all levels
- Computer literate
- Physically fit and of good moral character

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
for

Metro Manila (CODE: AE-MNL)
Malolos (CODE: AE-MAL)
Laguna (CODE: AE-LGN)
Batangas (CODE: AE-BGS)
Cebu (CODE: AE-CEB)
General Santos (CODE: AE-GES)
Davao (CODE: AE-DVO)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Responsible for selling and promoting WWWExpress domestic services; maintaining existing accounts and developing new accounts for the company. Conducts regular sales calls and attends to clients' needs.

QUALIFICATIONS

- College graduate, preferably business related courses
- With proven relevant experience, skill, and training in sales
- With pleasing personality; presentable, confident in manner
- Must be able to communicate effectively (written and verbal) to all types of people
- Aggressive and with excellent negotiating skills
- Computer literate
- Willing to do field work and be assigned in branches indicated above (preference will be given to applicants who are resident of the provinces mentioned)
- Physically fit and of good moral character

CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENT (Manila-based)
(CODE: CSA)

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Responsible for booking shipments and providing tracing status of all incoming and outgoing shipments. Attends to customer / client inquiries and problems regarding their shipments.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduate of four-year course; not more than 28 years old
- With at least 2 years relevant experience in customer relations
- Willing to work in shifting schedule
- With excellent oral & written communication skills
- With excellent interpersonal skills
- Computer literate
- Hardworking and can work effectively with minimum supervision
- Physically fit and of good moral character

Interested applicants must submit their comprehensive resume, preferably with scanned 2x2 color picture, at hiring.now@wwwexpress.com.ph. Kindly indicate applied position as your subject.

Or send it to the Human Resources Department, Wide Wide World Express Corporation, Pascor Drive Sto. Niño, Parañaque.

For immediate processing of application, applicants are encouraged to submit the above mentioned requirements on or before May 29, 2005.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

A Clark based knit export manufacturer needs the following:

SENIOR MERCHANDISER

- Female, below 40 years old
- 10 years related work experience for US brand name, computer literate, fluent English speaking and written
- willing to work under pressure and overtime

CUTTING SUPERVISOR

- Male, below 40 years old
- 10 years related work experience for knitted fabric
- knowledge for consumption and utilization of fabric, ratio making and spreading sheet preparation
- work experience abroad, preferred

SEWING SUPERVISOR

- Female, below 40 years old
- 7-10 years related work experience
- work experience abroad, preferred
- knowledge in operation b/d, quota, line balancing and target output

FINISHING/ PACKING SUPERVISOR

- Below 40 years old
- 7 years related work experience
- work experience in USA brand garment, preferred
- knowledge in revising, pressing, packing, loading and packing list preparation

SAMPLE ROOM SUPERVISOR

- Female, below 40 years old
- at least 7 years related work experience
- can handle the work flow and planning for schedule, knowledge for handling high fashion style is preferred

Please mail your resumé with picture and salary to:

Room LG56, Cityland Dela Rosa Condominium
Dela Rosa Street, Pio Del Pilar, Makati City

UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

Vacancy No: 2005/05-EXT
Date Issued: 22 May 2005
Closing Date: 03 June 2005

POST TITLE : **UN Coordination Specialist /**
Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator (935-10)

ENTRY LEVEL : NO-C
OFFICE AND LOCATION : UNDP Philippines In Manila
TYPE OF APPOINTMENT : Fixed Term

DUTIES AND RESPOSIBILITIES:

Under the guidance and direct supervision of the UN Resident Coordinator, the UN Coordination Specialist/Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator supports the UN Country Team to prepare high quality, focused and strategic United Nations Country Team Plan, to undertake common programming processes; to develop and implement collaborative and joint programmes, to advocate, mainstream and monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Global Conferences, to support common operations for greater UN efficiency, and to assist in the inter-agency implementation of the common UN development assistance plan.

The UN Coordination Specialist supervises and leads the staff of the UN Coordination Unit. The UN Coordination Specialist works in close collaboration with the UNCT members, programme and operations teams of the Agencies,UNDGO staff and Government officials, technical advisors and experts, multi-lateral and bi-lateral donors and civil society ensuring successful and transparent coordination of UNCT activities.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Master's degree in social, economic, political science, international relations or development studies;
- Exceptional managerial and coordination experience;
- Experience in similar tasks with international organization or knowledge about the UN and Resident Coordinator system would be an advantage;
- Excellent writing and oral skills in English.

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work experience.

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs/ indicating the Vacancy No. and Post Title on or before 03 June 2005, and sent to:

Human Resource Unit
United Nations Development Progamme
30th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza
Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Kindly note that only complete P11 forms will be reviewed.

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipino nationals to apply for the post.

Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.

Like it easy!
HOME 97dot9 MANILA RADIO

is in urgent need of

ENGINEERING STAFF

- Licensed 1st Class GRCO or Licensed ECE
- Male , 21 – 30 years old, personable

PRODUCTION STAFF

- Masscom Graduate
- Male or Female, 21 to 30 years old
- Good written and oral communication
- Experienced in doing production works is an advantage

Due to the urgency of the requirement, applicants are advised to apply personally and bring resumé, transcript of records, 2x2 colored picture at:

ALIW BROADCASTING CORPORATION
5th Floor Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
Tel# 637-3965 to 70, Fax # 633-9162
Email: taongyaman@speed.info.com.ph
taong_yaman@yahoo.com

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

MERCHANDISER
Female, below 25 years old, graduate of Clothing/Garment related course, can illustrate fashion and flat sketches and understands basic clothing construction.
Please bring sample/collection in flat &/or figure sketch.

ACCOUNTING STAFF
Female, below 25 years old, accounting graduate, with or without experience.

SALES STAFF
Female, below 22 years old, high school graduate, 5'4" above, for San Lazaro/Makati and Mandaluyong branch.

Apply personally at **UNICA HIJA**
#33 Scout Borromeo St., South Triangle, QC
or call 374-6866/371-8373
look for Ms. Ian

Immediate Hiring

English Tutor

- Preferably a college graduate
- With or without experience
- Single at least 20-27 years old
- With pleasing personality

For more inquiries contact Tel. # 850-8712 then look for Ms. Amabelle Tejada.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

CALL CENTER AGENTS

HI SALARY!!

- College graduates or College level
- Willing to work in Makati or Libis or Alabang
- Inbound & Outbound Sales Experience
- Telemarketers, Insurance/Car Agents etc. preferable
- With knowledge in MS Word/Excel etc
- Fluent in Written and Oral English

Call: 9269857 / 4112630 / 09177915790 / 9298328
MANOS OUTSOURCING
Apply at Unit E, 1675 Rizalina 2 Bldg.
Quezon Avenue, QC (nr Census)
email address manos@mozcom com

DOMINIC CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Urgently needs the following:

AIRCON TECHNICIAN

- Familiar with all types and all capacity of aircon units
- With working experience for at least 2 years
- Can troubleshoot
- Can drive & with professional Driver's License

Bring the following requirements: Bio-data, NBI, Police or Brgy. Clearance, Transcript of records, Certificate of employment and TESDA Certificates.

Apply in person at:

229-A Basilan St. cor. Talayan St.,
Mandaluyong City

A manufacturing firm is in need of the ff:

3 – Electrical Engineer
4 – Mechanical Engineer
3 – BS Chemistry
2 – BS Psychology

At least 22-29 years old
Send your resume at:
P.O. Box 92
Valenzuela City Post Office

Visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com

CLIENTLOGIC

Philippines Inc.
Ortigas Center Baguio City

22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail: recruitment@clientlogic.com.ph www.clientlogic.com

FOR MANILA:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives
Accountant
Network Engineer
Systems Administrator
Reports Specialist
IT Site Support Engineer
Systems Developer

FOR BAGUIO:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives

Walk-in applicants are welcome from:
Mondays to Fridays
9:30 am to 11:30 am
Bring your resume with
° 2x2 picture
° SSS & TIN nos.

E-mail Applications:
° Indicate the position your applying for as the subject

my choice my career my growth

PASIG: Mon to Fri (9:30 am-11:30 am) May 23 - 27 ° 22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

BAGUIO: Mon to Fri (9am-5pm) May 23 - 27 ° Baguio Economic Zone, Loakan Rd., Baguio City

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Assistant Economics and Statistics Analyst

Description of Responsibilities

The position is responsible for providing technical and administrative support in the development and maintenance of the statistical database system (SDBS), and for the preparation of statistical tables for statistical publications and ADB operations.

Specific responsibilities include:

1. Assisting the data administrator in maintaining the SDBS classification/coding systems, in monitoring the data schema, and in testing new application modules for SDBS;
2. Contributing to the effective maintenance of SDBS by updating and preserving the reliability of data in his/her assigned DMCs files in SDBS by employing data gathered from official correspondence from statistical contacts in the DMCs, statistical publications, electronic databases from other international organization and other sources;
3. Assisting in the timely completion and accurate preparation of statistical publications/reports produced by Development Indicators and Policy Research (ERDI) by generating and/or constructing statistical tables and documents, and also by editing and proofreading these documents; and
4. Performing other related duties that may be assigned by immediate supervisor and/or Assistant Chief Economist;

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Assistant Chief Economist, ERDI, Economics and Research Department (ERD).

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- A bachelor degree in Statistics, Economics, Computer Science, or related fields;
- At least five years relevant work experience, preferably in statistical databases;
- Extensive experience in using data analysis software such as STATA, SAS, and SPSS;
- Thorough knowledge of MS Excel, MS Powerpoint and MS Word;
- Good oral and written communication skills in English; and
- Ability to work well as part of a team.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting Ref. No. EXT-AS05-101(4)-ERDI and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/applform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by 3 June 2005.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

www.adb.org

Asian Development Bank ADB
FIGHTING POVERTY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

MICRO RESOURCES
INTERNATIONAL INC.

Is in need of

CUSTOMER SERVICE ENGINEER

- 23 to 29 years old, graduate of Computer Engineering;
- Preferably with knowledge in ATM repair, and Passbook Printers;
- With at least 2 to 3 years experience;

Please fax your personal data to 920-7045 or call Level at 927-2782

W A N T E D

PROJECT ENGINEERS

Male, Experience preferred
Hardworking, Excellent communication skills
Assertive, Can work with great responsibility Willing to be designated to provinces

ALUMINUM CLADDING INSTALLERS

With experience
Apply in person Mon to Fri 10:00-12:00nn
COMPOSITE PANEL SPECIALIST, INC.
Unit 5 2/F Design Mix Center
#59 Connecticut St., Greenhills San Juan MM
Tel.# 721-1591, 721-1589

AMORE Alliance for Mindanao Off-Grid Renewable Energy

A rural electrification project being implemented by Winrock International, a non-profit organization, is in need of highly qualified and responsible person to occupy the position of:

FINANCE MANAGER

(Manila-based)

Qualifications:

- A degree in Accounting or Financial Management; CPA; preferably with MBA or Law units
- At least five years experience in financial management of USAID contracts
- At least 5 years of senior-level professional experience in all facets accounting work
- Excellent working capabilities with Accounting and other computer software packages; computer literate (Windows/XP applications- MS Office)
- Excellent command of the English language (written, oral, and comprehension)
- Experience with NGOs and/or private firms active in development
- High sense of responsibility, maturity and professionalism
- Exceptional leadership/managerial, interpersonal and organizational skills
- Team player
- Self-starter and able to work independently
- Willing to travel to Mindanao

We are searching for flexible, motivated and mobile individuals. Qualified and interested applicants are requested to send their comprehensive resumé with their recent 2x2 color ID photo to:

The HR/Admin Manager
ALLIANCE FOR MINDANAO OFF-GRID RENEWABLE ENERGY (AMORE)
Unit 1501 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

NEW ZEALAND

IS OPEN FOR APPLICATION FOR

MIGRANTS

WITH THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

- A 4-year college degree holder
- 24 to 49 years old;
- 4 to 10 years work experience related to degree
- Spouse who completed any 4-year college degree would be an advantage

FREE ASSESSMENT

**OUR SERVICE PACKAGE INCLUDES
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FOR FREE ASSESSMENT, YOU MAY CALL, VISIT OR EMAIL US AT:

NZ SKILLS TRAINING SERVICES
Unit 2606 Antel Global Corporate Center, #3 Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig
Tel Nos: 687-6776; 687-2463 • Mobile No: 0920-925-1374 • Email: nz_skills@pacific.net.ph

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INTERNATIONAL MARKETING ALLIANCE iPMAC PACIFIC CORPORATION

A foreign company engaged in the business of Marketing Business Services of Foreign Companies through telecommunications is in urgent need of:

TELESALES REPRESENTATIVES

BASIC SALARY + +

Basic Responsibilities:

☐ General Marketing through telecommunications to prospective clients.

Qualifications:

☐ Male or Female 20-45 years old, work experience in Inbound or Outbound call centers and or customer service is an advantage. Must be confident, self-motivated and fluent in spoken English, must have excellent interpersonal skills and reasoning ability.

Initial interview shall be conducted on the phone, for initial screening please call.

0915-447-4567 Between 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. Mon-Fri

Canon

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Japanese Language In-house Instructors

- Conduct Basic Japanese Language Classes for company employees
- Assist the General Administration with tasks such as handling Japanese telephone communications and occasional interpretation / translation
- College Graduate
- Japanese Language Proficiency Certification is an advantage
- Have good communication and presentation skills

Competitive compensation and benefits await successful applicants.

Please send a copy of your resume with passport-size photo and transcript of records to:

**Canon Information Technologies Philippines, Inc.
Human Resource Department
2nd Floor Techno Plaza One,
18 Orchard Road, Eastwood, Q.C. 1110
Tel: (632) 421-1234 / 0917-8582709
Fax: (632) 421-1050
E-mail: recruitment@citech.com.ph**

ThreeBond

**Three Bond Singapore Pte Ltd
Manila Representative Office**

Manufacturer of Adhesives and Sealants, a Japanese multinational company located in Makati is looking for a dynamic individual to fill-up the position of:

ACCOUNT OFFICER

Responsible for providing customer service, marketing and sales.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
- Graduate of any Bachelor's Degree
- Male; Age: 22 to 29 years old
- Willingness and drive to do fieldwork sales is required; previous experience is an advantage.
- Has at least 1 year related experience
- Must possess excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Must be proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Must have driver's license or willing to secure.
- Familiar in PEZA areas.

Opening for Account officer is for immediate hiring.

1. E-mail your resumé with photo at: owie@threebond.com.ph
2. To learn more about ThreeBond, visit **www.threebond.co.jp**

Filadams Pharma, Inc.

is in need of

LICENSED PHARMACIST

with the following qualifications:

- male or female, preferably single
- with pleasing personality
- requires minimum supervision
- articulate and hardworking
- not more than 28 years old

To qualified candidate, we offer basic salary, fringe benefits and the opportunity to grow with the company.

Bring latest resumé, Transcript of Records, license, NBI clearance and 2 ID pictures.

Interested applicants may contact **Ms. Ditas E. Tenecio** at
Tel. Nos. 922-2284 to 87, Fax No. 921-0868
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- Well versed in PageMaker, PhotoShop and Illustrator (or CorelDraw) on Windows
- Expert in the printing process and willing to do printer visits

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- Graduate of fine arts, graphic design, architecture or with ample desktop-publishing experience
- At least 2 years' experience in magazine layout
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- Graduate of Journalism, English or Mass Communications
- At least a years' experience in publications
- Preferably has published work in any of the national publications
- Good at project management

For those who meet above qualifications, pls. send or email CV with ID photo to:

Office Address: The Core Group Publishing, Inc.
Unit 610 Cityland 10 Tower 1
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- Female, graduate of any four year course
- With experience in garments warehousing system, stocks issuance and inventory
- Computer literate, hardworking and with initiative
- Can work with minimum supervision

**Send resume with credentials or fax/e-mail to:
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996 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St.(Vito Cruz) Malate, Manila
Tels. #525-3593/523-0957 Fax # 521-36-71
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- College degree in business management, human resources or related field
- Female, 23-29 years old
- 2-3 years related Human Resources experience
- Ability to travel periodically as needed for training and recruitment
- Outstanding communication skills
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- Strong leadership/analytical/problem solving skills

SENIOR DESIGNER

- College degree in Fashion Design or related field
- 3-5 years design experience
- Expert design and conceptual skills
- Excellent sense of style and color
- In depth knowledge of silhouettes, fabrication, color ways, sewing techniques, graphics and trim
- Excellent organizational, time management and communication skills

MERCHANDISE AND OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

- College degree in business management or related field
- Strong organizational and follow up skills
- Ability to manage multiple tasks at one time
- Strong ability to identify and execute priorities with a sense of urgency
- Ability to work independently and as a team member
- Must have advanced Word, Excel and PowerPoint skills
- Pro active approach to responsibilities

SALES MANAGER

- Bachelor's degree required
- Female, 23-29 years old
- 3-5 years experience in account management or retail marketing
- Ability to apply strategic thinking to Brand Marketing
- Strong project management and creative account management experience
- Desire and ability to work in fast-paced, dynamic and creative environment
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Flexible, responsive, detail-oriented and has commitment to deadlines
- Ability to lead, motivate and manage team

STORE MANAGER

- Bachelor's degree required
- Female, 22-29 years old
- 2-3 years experience in sales, marketing or related field
- Ability to work a flexible schedule to meet the needs of the business
- Strong leadership and motivational ability

Qualified applicants may send their resumé to:

APPLE & EVE
Human Resources Department
#10 J Caparas St. Bgy Ugong, Pasig
Or email to: hr@apple-eve.com

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- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- Preferably with one (1) year experience in recruitment and other areas of HR work
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality and can deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must be people-oriented, analytical, and highly motivated
- Must be computer literate

BOUTIQUE MANAGERS / SALES SUPERVISORS

- Between 23-35 years old; at least 5'2 in height
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Human Resources Management Division
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Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

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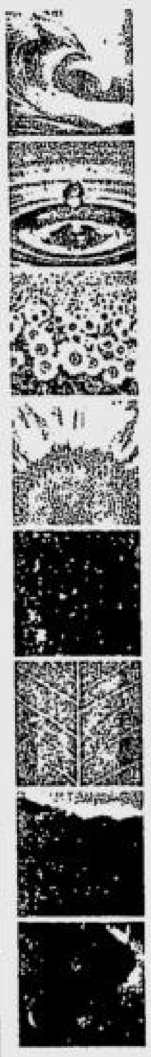

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- ➢ Knowledge of various bivariate and multivariate statistical techniques, including factor analysis, analysis of variance, multiple regression, logit, discriminant function analysis, cluster analysis, and conjoint analysis.
- ➢ Must be a good communicator and be able to write and present statistical findings about complex subject matter in general business terms.

B. JUNIOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER

- ➢ Primary tasks include Network System Administration under Linux environment, Web-based applications and streamlining electronic data processing software. Other tasks include acting as IT laison to our vendors and troubleshooting office software.
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C. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

- ➢ Not more than 25 years old, graduate of Statistics, Business Economics, Marketing, Psychology, Anthropology, Communications Research or Economics with above-average scholastic standing.
- ➢ Familiar with or has basic knowledge of research (design, implementation, data processing, and analysis)
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10th Floor, OMM-Citra Building
San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City

OR

Human Resources Department
PHILIPPINE SURVEY & RESEARCH CENTER, INC. – RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL
PSRC Building, Calbayog cor. Kanlaon Sts.
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E-mail address: research@psrc-ri.com.ph

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Please submit resume with recent picture at:
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- Strong sales background calling for American, Australian and/or British accounts is an advantage
- Candidates are expected to have bubbly personality to be able establish good conversation and rapport with customers
- Must be assertive, high spirited and persevering
- Fresh graduates with above average communication skills and passion for sales are welcome to apply

QA MANAGER

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree holder preferably in Industrial or Management Engineering or any Operations related discipline
- At least 5 years experience in Quality Assurance or working knowledge running a Quality Management program
- Significant work-related experience in a call center or in highly customer service oriented company gains definite advantage
- Candidates are expected to have keen eye for detail, developed analytical and good decision-making skills and above average communication skills

FINANCIAL ANALYST

Job Requirements:

- Must have at least 3 years working knowledge either as Financial Analyst, Bank Lending Officer / Investment Banking Associate, Corporate Governance Professional or Auditor (Internal or External)
- Must be CPA with substantial work experience or Business graduates with similar working capacity
- Ability to prepare accurate financial reports and projects required by senior management
- Must have the technical skills to maintain an up-to-date and complete governance documents
- Serves as key representative of current and prospective investor groups

WORKFORCE PLANNING SUPERVISOR

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree holder ideally in Industrial or Management Engineering, Statistics or any Operations related discipline
- At least 1 –2 years experience in workforce planning preferably in a Call Center set-up
- Expected knowledge in Statistical Process, Quality Control Tools, Spreadsheets, Forecasting and Scheduling systems
- Ability to work with mathematical and probability concepts and forecasting tools
- Adept in interpreting wide range of statistical data and draw sound conclusions
- Candidates are expected to have keen eye for detail, developed analytical and good decision-making skills and above average communication skills

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Job Requirements:

- Graduates of BS Computer Science and other IT-related courses
- Candidates must have hands-on experience in any of the following languages: VB, ASP, VB.net, ASP.net and MS SQL
- Preferably with at least 1 year work experience in related field
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- ☐ Male/Female
- ☐ Not more than 28 years old
- ☐ Computer literate, Word, Excel
- ☐ Knowledgeable in AUTOCAD
- ☐ Proficient in materials estimate
- ☐ Able to handle actual site investigation
- ☐ Possess leadership qualities
- ☐ Must be able to converse and express self fluently in English

Interested Applicants may send their resumé with photo at:

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- ➣ Male or Female, 24 to 28 years old
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Not more than 27 yrs. Old, computer literate
Can work diligently with minimum supervision
With good oral and written communication skills
Pleasing personality, trustworthy and hardworking
Very organized & responsible
CPA preferred but not required

SALES SUPERVISOR/MANAGER
Proven track record in sales and business development
Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
Preferred to have sales experience in tires
Committed to work and grow with the company
Must be able to build new accounts and manage good relationship with clients
Must be a team player and people oriented
Must be self motivated and results driven

SALES AGENTS
Aggressive, good PR skills
Extensive background experience w/ corporate sales
Goal & performance oriented
Will be assigned to do fieldwork

TIRE ADJUSTER/ENGINEER
Male, with knowledge and experience in tires
Pleasing personality and customer oriented

Interested applicants may send resume, 2x2 pic & transcript to:
TYREMART, INC.
347 Ortigas Ave., Greenhills East, Mandaluyong
Tel.# 727-6150/53

WANTED

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

- Male, single or married, not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of Engineering or Business course
- Must have good scholastic record
- Must have good personality
- Must be honest, trustworthy and diligent
- Must be willing to do field work

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- Female, single, not more than 30 years old
- Accounting graduate with good scholastic record
- Must be proficient in oral and written communication skills
- Must be computer literate

Please send resumé, transcript of records & passport size photo or apply in person at

P.O. Box No. 12940, Ortigas Center,
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QUALIFICATIONS:

- A high school graduate
- With one (1) year work experience in trades requiring fine eye-hand coordination on small detailed parts
- Possesses manual skills in working with the manufacture of small to medium sized parts
- Has the ability to work with instructions, engineering procedures and operation sheets
- Capable of light to medium physical demands

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The job assembles, according to strict quality and engineering specifications, electro hydraulic and pneumatic servo control components and products. A variety of hand tools fixtures, mechanical measuring devices, electronic test instruments, and hydraulic equipment is used: working from engineering drawings and instructions.

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- a graduate of a 3-year technological course; or
- a graduate of a 2-year trade course with at least 1 year related work experience; or
- a graduate of a 6-month vocational course with at least 2½ years related work experience; or
- Having completed at least 3 years engineering with at least 1 year related work experience; or having completed 4 to 5 years engineering.

JUNIOR MACHINE OPERATORS

The job entails operating and inspecting part outputs on a variety of CNC and/or conventional machine shop equipments i.e., drills, CNC lathes/mills, reams, etc.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Three (3) year mechanical/technical/BSIT/BSIE major in machine shop; or High School graduate with general machine shop; or three (3) year engineering with technical mechanical subjects
- For High School graduate with general machine shop course completed, at least two (2) years exposure in related machine shop production activities
- Has skills in blueprint reading, interpretation of charts, usage of basic shop measuring instruments
- Has special knowledge of machining principles and shop mathematics

MACHINE OPERATORS

The job entails the performance of a complete range of grinding/turning, drilling, tapping, boring, burnishing, reaming operations on all computer numerical controlled or manual machines. Make all types of set-ups including fixture alignment and settings of tools and stops. Work from part drawings, operation sheets, program sheets. Check for tape errors and worn or defective tools. Manually operate machine independently of tape by dialing in proper information on control panel when required. Inspect own work and use all types of inspection equipment available. Run more than one machine at a time when conditions permit. Set-up machines train and provide guidance for new CNC operators.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 3 year Mechanical Technology/BS Industrial Technology/BS Industrial Engineering major in Machine Shop or equivalent as follows:
    - At least 3 years in Engineering with general machine shop vocational course.
    - High School with general machine shop vocational course and 2½ years machine shop work experience.
- With minimum 1½ years machine shop experience
- Blueprint reading, use of precision gages like height masters and gages, gage blocks, air gages, etc.

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Baguio Economic Zone
Loakan Road, Baguio City 2600
Email address: staffingservices@ph.moog.com

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- 30 to 38 years old
- At least 5 years experience as heavy equipment mechanic
- Must be well versed in hydraulic components: transmission, torque converter, steering drive, final drive and hydraulic system
- Preferably worked in heavy equipment distributorship company

Interested applicant may send their comprehensive resumé with contact telephone number and 2' x 2" ID picture to:

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Quezon City

A Construction Firm
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a. PROJECT ENGINEER
- Graduate of BS in Civil Engineering
- Can do Project Schedulings
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b. ARCHITECT COORDINATOR
- Graduate of BS in Architecture
- Knowledgeable in various Architectural finishes and materials
- Can do Quantity Surveying Works

c. FINISHING FOREMAN
- With at least 5 years experience as Finishing Foreman
- Can supervise actual work

d. AIRCON TECHNICIAN
- Familiar with all types and all capacity of aircon units
- With working experience for at least 2 years
- Can troubleshoot
- Can drive with Professional Driver's License

Requirements:
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Apply personally:
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Tel Nos 531-78-92 / 532-23-35 / 533-07-88

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(1) WEB DESIGNER

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or Information Technology.
- Preferably with 2-3 years experienced in Web Developing and Web Hosting.
- Can speak and write Chinese language is an advantage but not required

(1) PROGRAMMER

- Bachelor's Degree in Comp. Engineering/Computer Science/ Information Technology. Experienced in Linux, UNIX, PHP, PostgreSQL.
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Please send your resumé to job@wingcast.jp
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MARKETING/PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (for IT products) At least 3 years experience as marketing/product specialist/ IT systems integration At least with successful large scale projects on IT systems integration	MBDS-IT
MARKETING/PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (for China Project) MDS focused on advertising 3 years work experience in marketing/product development/ exposed on internal/external bill boards/banner/broad show	MPDS-CP
TRAVEL AGENCY MANAGER Tourism/Mass Communication graduate preferred At least with 2 to 3 years experience in travel agency, in a supervisory/managerial level (e.g. inbound and outbound) Extensive experience in the travel industry	TAM
CREATIVE DIRECTOR *(supervisory capacity)* Minimum of 5 years work experience in creative designing/services Experience in an Advertising Agency	CD
ART DIRECTOR 3 years experience in a supervisory/managerial capacity/ Graphic Arts company Macromedia Flash, 3D Animation, Corel Draw and Adobe Photoshop Skill in editing still images and video clips is an advantage	AD
2 SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYST (Programmer Supervisor) Knowledgeable in MS2000 (SQL), LINUX (MYSQL), IBM DB2, and experience in System Integration	SSA
2 WEB DESIGNERS/DEVELOPERS At least 2 years experience as web developer Knowledgeable on JavaScript, ASP, ASP.Net	WD-D
12 ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES 2 years work experience in sales	AE
2 SALES COORDINATORS At least 1 to 2 years work experience as sales coordinator and ha an excellent skills in telemarketing	SC
3 SALES ASSISTANTS With at least 1 year work experience as sales assistant Excellent oral and written communication skills IT & Advertising background preferred	SA
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Single, male/female At least 1 year work experience in Media Willing to travel	EA
IT RESEARCHER At least 2 years experience as IT researcher Able to write and presents the reports on the researched topic	IT-R
PURCHASING OFFICERS 2 years experience as purchasing officer in IT industry	PO

- *For CD, AD, MA-D positions, applicants must be a*
- *Graduate of Fine Arts, Architecture, or equivalent*
- *Highly Creative, resourceful, and proactive*
- *Must have sufficient expertise in desktop publication*
- *Proficient with the use of Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw and other software in designing.*
- *TAM, AE, SC, SA and EA positions must be a:*
- *Graduate of Mass Communication or any business related courses (Marketing/Management etc.),*
- *With pleasing personality*
- *Able to write business correspondence letter, proposals, and other mktg. materials*

Corporate Qualifications:
Degree in Information Technology or any computer studies, or any course relevant to the position applied for.
Fulltime and can work overtime.
Excellent interpersonal skills
Mostly for managerial positions:
Leadership, ability to accept responsibilities and to get assignments done on time
Integrity and dependability
Quantity and quality of work output
Punctuality; willingness to maintain satisfactory relations with employees, superiors and Clients;
Flexibility and receptivity in dealing with new situations, ideas, duties and methods
Capacity to work under pressure and meet deadlines
Masters degree is a plus for managerial position or CPA (for FM)
Able to make marketing plans/feasibility study/market research
Able to present the plans/proposals/reports through Power Point presentation

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES LOOK FORWARD TO CHALLENGING CAREER AND A COMPETITIVE REMUNERATION PACKAGE

Submit your resumé at:
7373 Bakawan Street, San Antonio Village Makati City, Philippines 1200
or e-mail us at hrd@go2ph.net *(indicate the JOB CODE on the subject section)*

CCF PHILIPPINES

Working for the well-being of Children

Our organization is an international non-profit, non political and non-sectarian child development agency that operates in over 30 countries. It has provided development assistance in the Philippines for 35 years and in partnership with 49 community-based organizations, assists more than 21,600 children and their families. It is currently seeking high-caliber development professionals for the following positions:

One (1) MICRO FINANCE/MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
One (1) HEALTH DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
One (1) EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

The overall responsibility is to provide technical support in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CCF programs in the country ensuring quality impact for the wellbeing of children and their communities. Specifically, these development specialists are expected to support the Country Office in the development of the country strategic plan and its implementation ensuring desired outcomes are achieved. Assisting the Country Office in resource mobilization and management in support of quality programs will also be a major task for the specialists.

One (1) GRANTS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

The overall responsibility is to lead the development of significant grant portfolio of the country office. S/he will take the lead in resource mobilization and networking with other development agencies in support of programs that directly address causes and effects of poverty on children. S/he will also provide active support in the formulation and implementation of grant projects ensuring quality and sustainable impact

The successful candidates must have the following qualifications:

☐ University Degree in relevant course
☐ At least three to five year experience as a development professional with strong exposure/ involvement in program planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
☐ Demonstrated capacity in providing technical expertise
☐ Demonstrated high level of interpersonal and cross-cultural skills
☐ Can work with minimal supervision and perform effectively under pressure
☐ Work experience in community based programs/projects
☐ Excellent oral and written communication skills
☐ A good grasp of children's issues at national and global levels a distinct advantage

Travel Requirements: Approximately 40%

An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated according to qualifications & experience.

Interested applicants may send their application letter together with detailed Curriculum Vitaé with 3 references & contact details to ccftpo@pldtdsl.net not later than May 31, 2005. Due to the volume of applications we receive, we shall contact shortlisted applicants only.

WE HAVE A NEED FOR:

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Female, not more than 30 years old
- BS Accountancy graduate
- Computer literate
- One (1) year work experience

Apply in person with Bio-data and ID photo to:

MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2278 Pasong Tamo Extension
Makati City
Email address: mantrade@pldtdsl.net

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iMotive Technology Inc.
Suite 501 East Tower, PSE Ortigas Ctr.
Exchange Road, Pasig City 1600
careers@imotivetechnologies.com

is looking for proficient:

PROGRAMMERS

Language: PHP, .NET
Database: SQL (My/MS), Postgres

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Sales Consultants
Account Executives
Accounting Officers
Operations Supervisors
Contributing Writers
Distribution Officers
Service Crews

ROP BUSINESS PROVIDER CORPORATION
2109 Jollibee Plaza Bldg., Emerald Avenue Ortigas Center Pasig
Tel. No.: 632-0353
Interview Schedule: Monday - Wednesday

Bellissima Bar & Restaurant

Urgently needs
OPERATIONS MANAGER
* male or female
* with MARKETING background
* 2-3 years experience
Interested applicants may submit resume w/ picture at
3/F The Fort Strip, Global City Taguig
Telephone Nos. 815-8688 to 89
Monday — Friday, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Look for: Ms.Bambi Sonza

WANTED IMMEDIATELY !!

Experienced only apply.

1. Mechanical/Civil/Electrical Engineers
2. Water Treatment Plant Operators/Laboratory Assistants
3. Technicians (Electrical/Mechanical field)
4. Certified Welders/Crane/Excavator Operator

Applicants must prepare to work shift/abroad, valid passport and driver's license would be advantage. Min 3 yrs working experience, self starter and able to work independently with good communication skills.

Submit applications by post only to :
The Advertiser
c/o Ms Lorna Raule
Unit 5, Casa Abelardo, N. Abelardo St.
Phase 5, BF Homes Las Pinas City

or preferably by e-mail to : **cem8eng@yahoo.com**
All applications must reach to us not later than 7th June 2005.
Only shortlisted applicant will be contacted via e-mail.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A Meeting, Incentives, Convention & Exhibits Company is looking for

A. MARKETING ASSISTANT
- Male or female, at least 25 years old
- Degree holder, preferably marketing, economics or events management graduate
- With previous experience in sales, marketing or events organizing
- Must be proficient in written and oral communications
- Is able to make sales calls/presentations
- Resourceful, self starter, fast learner
- Job may require long hours during events or out-of-town trips
- Computer literate

B. SECRETARY
- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of secretarial course, or equivalent
- Computer literate, familiar with Windows, MS Word, Excel, etc.
- With pleasing personality, courteous telephone mannners and good working habits

Please send bio-data/resumé, with 1x1 picture, to:

Attention: MICE Company
P.O. Box 1685
Quezon City

MSH LEAD

The Local Enhancement and Development (LEAD) for Health Project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Management Sciences for Health (MSH), aims to strengthen local government provision and management of family planning (FP) and selected health services (Vitamin A/MCH, TB, and HIV/AIDS), and to improve the policies and financing for these services. The Project will seek to improve the capacity of local government units (LGUs), particularly in cities and municipalities, to meet the needs of their constituents, especially the poor, for FP, TB, MCH, and HIV/AIDS.

The LEAD for Health Project is a three-year contract between USAID and MSH that ends on September 30, 2006. There are two 2-year optional extension periods.

MSH is currently seeking qualified candidates to fill in the position of:

DEPUTY CHIEF OF PARTY

Duty Station is Manila, Philippines.

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES
The Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) will provide primary support to the functions of the Chief of Party (COP) in supervising the activities and services provided through this contract including managing all technical inputs required in achieving the outputs expected. Through the COP, the DCOP will receive technical guidance from the USAID Cognizant Technical Officer and to some extent from the Department of Health (DOH) Project Manager for LEAD.

The DCOP will be supervised by the COP and will share the responsibility of day-to-day and long-range activities of the contract. The DCOP will assist the COP in tracking, coordinating, and reporting information related to project activities conducted. The COP and DCOP will work closely as a two-person senior team.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES
1. Supervise the implementation of all project activities, ensuring that performance schedules are observed and outputs are completed and delivered according to schedule.
2. In coordination with the COP, provide principal technical oversight for all policy studies, diagnostic and/or operations research studies, demonstration projects, training and technical assistance needed to formulate recommendations for policy reform measures covered under the contract.
3. With the COP, provide technical supervision and assign technical responsibilities as may be necessary to all long- and short-term consultants working under the contract.
4. Provide overall technical oversight for all work and activities necessary to achieve the objectives, outputs and deliverables expected under the contract.
5. Advocate and support policy development initiatives, seeking support from high level DOH and other Government of the Republic of the Philippines agencies and private sector entities for the technical areas covered under the contract. Ensure timely provision of feedback and guidance concerning the functioning and effectiveness of the various components of the contract.
6. Liaise with the principal policy and decision makers within the DOH, and other government agencies, professional and trade associations, interest groups, and the community at large to assure that Project activities are relevant to the current policy issues and directives being debated in the health community at large.
7. Other assignments as requested by the COP.

QUALIFICATIONS
1. Minimum of a master's level education/ training or its equivalent in Health Economics, Public Health, Public or Business Administration, or a related field.
2. Demonstrated success in a managerial role of a comparable multi-dimensional USAID project, managing professional and financial resources on a similar scale preferred. Familiarity with and understanding of USAID administrative procedures preferred.
3. Direct senior staff supervision experience required. Ability to work closely on a team basis with the COP and senior management.
4. At least seven years successful previous experience working with national and local governments on the development and/or implementation of health programs both at the national and local levels in the developing world.
5. Demonstrated understanding, thorough knowledge of and familiarity with health systems, health financing, and health program policy issues confronting the Philippines. Successful prior experience in policy and advocacy projects in a developing country, preferably in the Philippines.
6. Significant previous experience in the implementation of FP/MCH/TB/HIV/AIDS programs in the field preferred.
7. Familiarity with principal individuals within the DOH, other government agencies, private/business sector, and the community at large who are responsible for health policy.
8. Familiarity with local government systems and procedures in the implementation of donor-assisted projects, including the management of the health system at the LGU level. Experience working with nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the delivery of health services.
9. Track record of strong commitment to sharing knowledge, documenting experience, supporting creative initiatives, and sharing credit.
10. Ability to interact productively and proactively with government agencies, NGOs, private sector groups, USAID, cooperating agencies, and donor organizations.
11. Commitment to working closely with MSH/Cambridge and partner organizations on a collaborative basis.

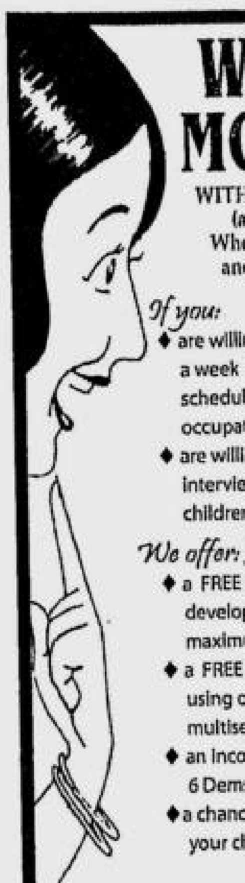
Filipino national preferred.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their application letter, with a comprehensive resume showing details of their work experience, academic background, and references not later than May 27, 2005 through any of the following:

Mail: Suite 1101 Ma. Natividad Building
470 T. M. Kalaw Avenue corner Cortada Street
Ermita, Manila

Fax : (632) 521-0950

TECHNICAL/GENERAL



WANTED MOTHERS

WITH YOUNG CHILDREN
(ages 0 to 12 yrs. old)
Who want to raise the IQ
and EQ of their child

If you:
- ◆ are willing to work 8 to 10 hours a week around your children's schedule or your current occupation.
- ◆ are willing to work part-time interviewing parents with young children

We offer:
- ◆ a FREE seminar on how to develop your child's potential for maximum IQ and EQ.
- ◆ a FREE hands-on orientation using our multilevel and multisensory materials.
- ◆ an income of P 4,000 for 5 or 6 Dems.
- ◆ a chance to own the programs for your children at almost NO COST

We are a company specializing on this field that gives you the opportunity to earn while you learn on a part time & full time basis.

Please bring your bio-data & a recent photo, Mon to Wed 10 am - 6 pm.

Metro Manila
504 Galleria Corp. Center
Robinson's Galleria
Edsa Ortigas, Q.C

116 Quezon Avenue
Brgy. Paligsahan
Quezon City
Look for:
Jonah Olpano

Baguio City Branch
Suites 3-M & 3-N
West Burnham Place
Kisad Rd. Otanum St.
Baguio City
Look for: Alou Bambilla

San Pablo Branch
Room 203 2nd Floor
Ruan Bldg., M. Basa St.
San Pablo City
Look for: Mercy Calubayan

Cebu City Branch
301 B Mango Square Mall
Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu
Look for:
Sheila Sayoboc /
Agnes Fuentes

Davao City Branch
Regina Commercial Complex
C.M. Recto, Davao City
Look for: Medy Agusto

*For FREE EQ / IQ Seminar,
Come Tuesday 9 am at Galleria branch only*

WE ARE A GROWING FOOD COMPANY IN NEED OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR THE FF POSITIONS:

HR ASSISTANT
SECRETARY ENCODERS
COMPANY TECHNICIAN

- Professional, efficient and hardworking
- Willing to work long and flexible hours

Compensation package would be commensurate to the work performance

EXPERIENCE IN YOUR FIELD IS AN ADVANTAGE
Please apply in person at 158 P. Sevilla St., between 6th & 7th Ave., Grace Park, Caloocan City. BRING RESUMÉ w/ 2X2 colored photo.

IT OUTSOURCE GROUP OF COMPANIES

The country's largest award winning medical transcription training and solutions provider is in search of results oriented individuals to be placed in any of the following companies in various locations throughout the country*

MTC ACADEMY · ACCUTYPE MEDICAL SERVICES · IT Outsource · InnovaQuest

All applicants must: have excellent English written and oral communication skills, willing to work long hours, a self starter, a team player, able to work under pressure, possess strong organizational and interpersonal skills. Strong MS office and Internet usage skills is a must.

MANAGEMENT DIVISION: ITO

HR Officer - Businesss, Psych. or Com. Graduate with at least 2 years non-traditional HR experience in a FAST HIRE, SKILL BASED environment. Must have proven track record in screening and hiring competent personnel.

Marketing Officers - Marketing course graduate with at least 1 year proven experience, expert English written skills, practical approach in marketing strategies.

Franchise Sales Executives - Business course graduate, excellent English verbal skills with above average comprehension of financial statements.

Franchise Operations Officers - Business course graduate with strong understanding of financial statements, proven past record in account management and project management.

Franchise Account Executives - College graduate, strong English verbal skills, highly organized and practical minded.

IT Technical Documentation Manager - Preferably a Microsoft Certified Professional, expert in Advanced Server 2003, Exchange Server, SQL Database, skilled in systems documentation, IT process standardization, personnel function management, and security management

IT/Technical Support Staff - CIS Graduate with basic to strong working knowledge of Advance Server, SQL Database, and security systems.

Software Development Officers - .NET or ASP Programmers, preferably with Microsoft Certification, minimum 1 year proven track record in clean cut source code development.

Finance Officer- preferably CPA, highly skilled in Quickbooks or Peachtree software, able to manage multiple accounts, proven track record in SME operations.

Accounting Officer - Preferably CPA with basic skills in Quickbooks or Peachtree software.

EDUCATION DIVISION: MTC

Medical Lecturers - Medical Doctors, innovative and creative in teaching style, can work on a part time or full time basis.

Medical Transcription Mentors - at least 1 year MT work experience; full time basis.

School Administrator or Faculty Coordinator - Previous experience in school administration is a plus, strong financial and management skills required.

SERVICES DIVISION: AMS/IQ

Medical Transcriptionists - Preferably allied med grad. or MT course grad, at least 6 months MT experience, min. 350 lines per day at 98% quality.

QA Officers / Team Leaders - Preferably allied med grad. or MT course grad, at least 1 year MT experience, 99% quality, strong editing and proofreading skills.

MT Operations Head Medical Transcription or similar industry-related experience of at least 2 years. Highly proficient in written and oral English skills, excellent organizational skills, highly results oriented, with at least 2 years of proven performance in team management.

*National Consumers Excellence Awardee, Parangal ng Bayan 2004

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e-mail: hrd@mtcacademy.com / www.mtcacademy.com

G/F Urban Bldg. 405 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Bel-Air., Makati City

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JOB Market VISIT US AT: www.jobmarketonline.com

Roche

Administrative Assistant

(Application Code: AA)

Who we are

Founded in 1896 in Basel, Switzerland, Roche is an innovation-driven global healthcare leader dedicated to the discovery, research, production and marketing of high quality healthcare products. Consistently categorized among the top corporations in the country, Roche has been successfully operating in the Philippines for over 40 years.

The Position

The main responsibilities include providing personal assistance and comprehensive administrative support to the **expatriate** Finance Director in accordance to the company guidelines and policies.

Who You are

To qualify, you must be a 4-year course college graduate, with good academic record, and at least 3 years experience in the same or similar position, preferably with background in Accounting or IT. Exposure reporting to an **expatriate** in a multinational company and experience in handling contract administration is an advantage. You must have excellent planning and organizational skills, advanced level of computer literacy in MS Office programs and Internet applications, and above average verbal and written English communications skills. The ideal candidate must be customer-oriented, flexible and can work with minimum supervision.

How to Apply

Due to urgency of this requirement, please submit your resumé with salary expectation, recent passport size picture and contact telephone number no later than *Friday 27 May 2005* to:

**The Human Resources Department - Application Code___
Roche (Philippines) Inc.
2252 Don Chino Roces Avenue, 1231 Makati City.**

Only qualified applicants will be called for interview.

HRD (S) PTE., LTD. is engaged into producing of computer-aided architectural and structural design including continuous research and development.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

TELEPHONE OPERATOR

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old
- Fluent in Japanese and English Language
- With good Japanese/English conversation
- Graduate of any four (4) year course
- Computer literate

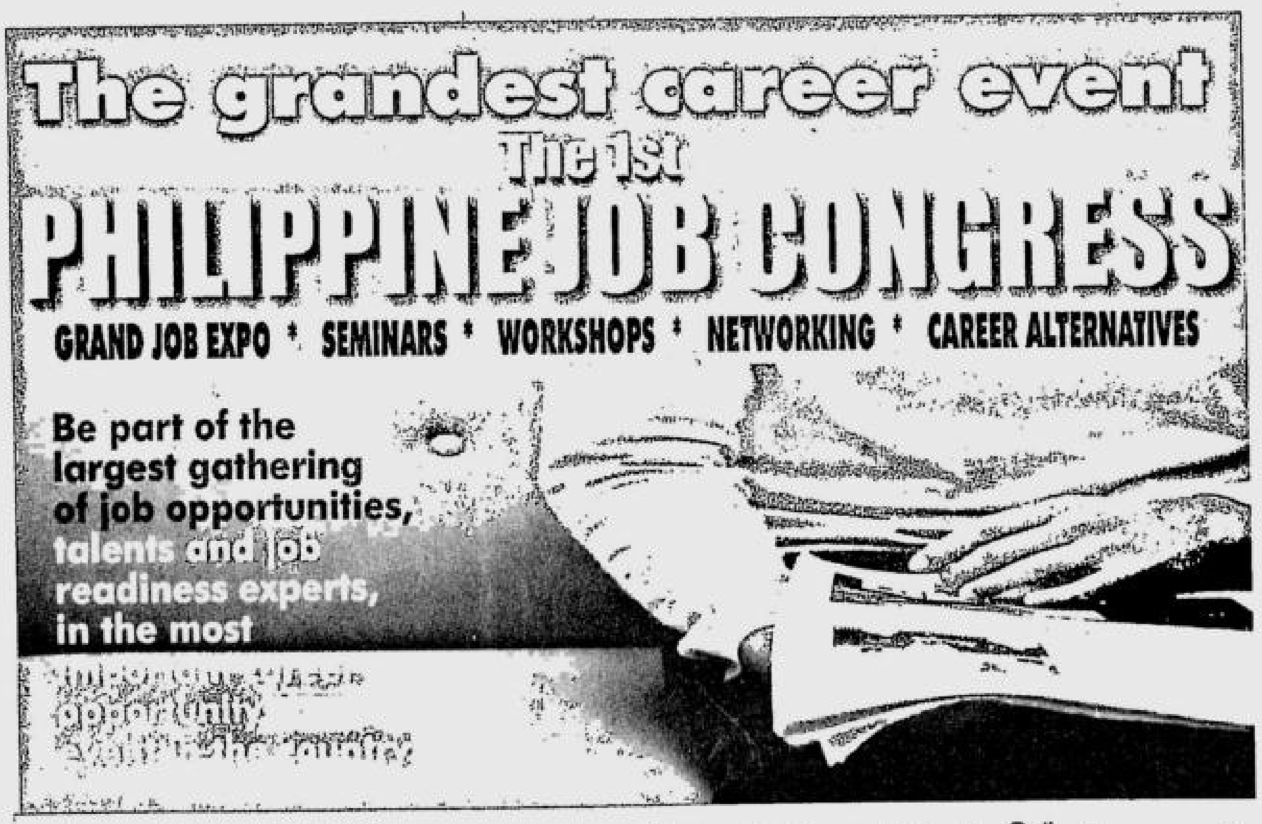
ASST. SUPERVISOR (LOGISTICS)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old
- With qualified experience in same position and in Import/Export job procedures
- Preferably graduate of BS Custom Administration
- Computer literate

Interested applicants must bring bio-data/resumé with 2x2 picture, diploma, transcript of record and SSS Employment History at:

HRD (S) PTE., LTD.
LOT 7, BLOCK 9, PHASE 1, CAVITE ECO-ZONE,
ROSARIO, CAVITE (EPZA)
Or send your application at: personnel01@hrd-s.com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Be part of the largest gathering of job opportunities, talents and job readiness experts, in the most

June 5 & 6, 2005 • Megatrade Hall 3, 5th Floor Bldg B SM Megamall

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

June 5, 2005 (Sunday)

Session 1
11AM TO 11:50 AM CALL CENTER INDUSTRY OVERVIEW & COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING
Mr. George Briñas and Ms. Jet Reynes, Call Center Academy

Session 2
1PM to 1:50PM PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT
Ms. Arlene Mogar, Powerspeak

Session 3
3PM TO 3:50PM ACQUIRING AMERI CAN ACCENT
Dr. Jose Mordeno, President, Speechpower

Session 4
4:30PM TO 5:20PM SPEAK BETTER ENGLISH
Ms. Christine Santos, Partner, YTC Tutorial and Review Center

Session 5
6PM TO 6:50PM ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS CAREER ALTERNATIVE
Mr. Mark Frederick H. So, CEO, Businessmaker Academy

June 6, 2005 (Monday)

Session 6
11AM TO 11:50 AM BUSINESS IDEAS WHILE IN-BETWEEN-JOBS
Mr. Mark Frederick H. So, CEO, Businessmaker Academy

Session 7
1PM TO 1:50PM DISCOVER YOUR PERSONAL POWER
Mr. Joey Reyes, President, Powerspeak

Session 8
3PM TO 3:50PM ACQUIRING AMERICAN ACCENT
Dr. Jose Mordeno, President, Speechpower

Session 9
4:30PM TO 5:20PM ENGLISH ENHANCEMENT FOR ALL PURPOSES (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking Skills)
Ms. Christine Santos, Partner, YTC Tutorial and Review Center

Session10
6PM TO 6:50PM INCREASE YOUR JOB SEARCH SUCCESS
Ms. Jane Soco, Marketing Manager, JOBSDB.COM

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jobsonline.com.ph Pow Speak Inc. METAZA CALL CENTER ACADEMY WWW.YEHEY.COM WAVE 89.1

Taiwanese Export Toys Manufacturing Wanted

Machine Shop Dept. – Male 22-35
(at least 1 yr. experience)
1. Injection Handler
2. Electrician
3. Machine maintenance & operation
4. Metal mould maker

Female 22-35 Yrs.
(College graduate/Knowledgeable in computer/Fluent English)
1. Chinese Interpreter
2. Export Documentation
3. Warehouse Clerk / Asst. of Production

Graphic Artist/Designer Dept. – M/F 18-30
1. Plastic Sample Maker
2. External Form Designer
3. Comp. Lit.: Photoshop/Illustrator

Apply or send resumé at:

Governor's Drive, Zapote-Paliparan 1,
Dasmariñas, Cavite
Tel. : (046) 972-0103 or 852-0988
Fax : (046) 972-2222

Sacred Heart Academy Pasig
M.Suarez Ave. Maybunga, Pasig
641-2369 or 641-2264

HIRING OF PRE-SCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY TEACHERS FOR SY 2005-2006

- A graduate of BSEE or BSE, Early Childhd Educ
- a year experience in teaching
- Must be ENGLISH proficient
- Excellent in oral and written communication

Interested applicants are requested to submit the following
- ✓ Letter of Intent, Resume with 2x2 photo
- ✓ Transcript of records
- ✓ At least 3 Professional references

We are also looking for **COMPUTER TECHNICIAN, LIBRARIAN, and GUIDANCE COUNSELOR** FOR SY 2005-2006

WANTED
ACCTG. CLERK

COMPUTER LITERATE
W/ ACCTG. BACKGROUND
FEMALE/SINGLE

SUBMIT RESUMÉ AT:
2nd FLR. ST. PATRICK SQUARE
#566 SHAW BLVD.,
MANDALUYONG CITY
TEL. # 5339060 • 5339061

German Technical Cooperation Cambodia
Support to the Health Sector Reform

gtz

JOB VACANCY - CAMBODIA
QUALITY ASSURANCE ADVISOR

The GTZ Programme Support to the Health Sector Reform (SHSR) in Cambodia provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Health within the framework of the Government's Health Sector Strategic Plan, with special focus on quality management and social health insurance.

In line with its current thrusts, SHSR is seeking an **experienced and qualified professional, from the South-East Asian Region**, to assist the newly established Quality Assurance Office under the Ministry of Health in catalysing the attainment of the intended outcomes for Quality Improvement and promote a policy environment for quality of health care in Cambodia.

Overall objective:
To assist the MOH in developing and successfully implementing a plan of activities in support of the strategies for Quality Improvement in the National Health Sector Strategic Plan for 2005-2007.

Responsibility:
Under the supervision of the SHSR Programme Coordinator, be responsible for the implementation of the Quality Improvement component of the Programme and other identified priority QA activities. This will include the following activities:

- Support the MoH in developing its central capacity by facilitating the institutionalisation of a structure to address agreed functions related to quality assurance;
- Provide technical assistance in the development of a policy and regulatory framework for quality assurance;
- Support the development of standards and a monitoring system to measure quality of services at Health Centres and Hospitals;
- Assist in the development and test a national licensing and accreditation system for public and private health facilities

Required qualifications and experience:
- Degree in Medicine, preferably with a Masters in Public Health
- Certification in Quality Assurance, MSc in Quality Assurance is an asset
- Proven experience in the implementation of Quality Management initiatives
- At least 5 years working experience on Quality Assurance in a health agency/ministry in a developing country

Skills and competencies:
- Effective in networking and liasing activities
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated writing skills
- Ability to work in a team

Applicants must be at least 30 years of age, preferably with an experience working in an international organisation; must be fluent in English and possess good analytical and problem solving skills.

Please email SHSR Cambodia for a full job description and application form: gtzadmin@online.com.kh
The vacancy is a contract position for 20 months with a possibility for extension, offering salary and other benefits as per GTZ Cambodia regulations.

Closing date: Friday, 10th June 2005

Women are encouraged to apply
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

The Transnational Diversified Group (TDG) is a Philippine-based conglomerate of dynamic and forward-looking corporations engaged in widely diverse businesses such as Total Logistics, Transportation, Shipping & Cargo Forwarding, Warehousing & Distribution, Ship Management, Maritime E-Training, Medical Services, Travel & Tours, Airline GSA, Aviation Services, Pre-Need Plans, Securities & Investments, Real Estate Development, IT & Business Process Outsourcing Services, E-Business Solutions, and related businesses

We are looking for highly-motivated and top-caliber individuals to join our expanding organization.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGERS
- Candidate must be a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Industrial Engineering or any 4-year Business-or HR-related course
- With at least five (5) years relevant work experience in recruitment, labor relations, performance rewards and remuneration, benefits administration, HR systems and employee development
- Contact center or BPO experience an advantage
- Excellent leadership and people skills
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANTS
- Candidate must be a graduate of Psychology, Human Resource Management or any HR-related course
- Preferably with at least 6 months relevant work experience
- Must have knowledge of recruitment, compensation and benefits administration, training, and labor laws
- Proficient in verbal and written communication
- Must be organized, systematic, can work with minimum supervision, and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- 22-27 years old

PARALEGAL
- Candidate must be a Law graduate
- Must have knowledge of relevant court and other government office procedures
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must be organized, systematic, and can work with minimum supervision
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Male, 25–30 years old

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- Candidate must be a graduate of Marketing, Management or any business-related course
- Logistics or travel industry experience and advantage
- Must have excellent people and customer service skills
- Must be dynamic, creative and a good team player
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must know how to drive and has a driver's license
- Must have working knowledge of MS applications
- 22-30 years old

WAREHOUSEMAN
- At least college level
- Must have at least one (1) year relevant experience
- Must have average communication skills
- Must have experience in forklift operation
- Male, 24-31 years old

ACCOUNTANTS / ACCOUNTING STAFF
- Candidate must be a CPA (for Accountants) or a graduate of Accounting, Banking & Finance or any related course (for Accounting Staff)
- Must be organized, systematic and can work with minimum supervision
- Must have good people skills and a team player
- Proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
- Must be a licensed medical professional (nurse, medical technologist, physical therapist, respiratory therapist and related medical courses)
- Preferably with knowledge in ECG and Treadmill Stress Test operation
- Must have good people and customer service skills
- Proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Must be female, 21-27 years old, single
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

PROGRAMMERS / TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF
- Candidate must be a graduate of Computer Science, Information Technology or equivalent
- Preferably with at least one (1) year relevant work experience but fresh graduates are welcome
- Must have knowledge in data and systems analysis and design
- Must have knowledge in application development
- Must be proficient in .Net programming, Visual Basic, SQL/MNSQL, database management and MS Office applications
- Must have knowledge in networking / TCP/IP and software installation under Windows (all versions) and Linux environments
- Must be proficient in PC hardware and software troubleshooting
- Knowledge in systems administration / PABX an advantage
- Proficient in verbal and written communications

DATA ENCODERS
- Has a bachelor's degree in any college course
- Must have a minimum typing speed of 35 words/minute
- Detail oriented and hard-working
- Must have above average communication skills
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Willing to accept shifting schedules and work during Sundays and holidays

Attractive compensation package, developmental opportunities, rewards and recognition programs, insurance and healthcare programs await successful candidates.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé with 2 pcs. 2x2 recent ID photos on or before Friday, 10 June 2005 to

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
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Willing to undergo technical and product training and market/industry orientation.

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Selected candidate will be tasked to do market research, business analysis, presentations, project management as well as administrative work. Must be able to work independently from general instructions and able to communicate well with different levels of staff and management.

Male/Female, 24-30 yrs old with pleasing personality. Graduate of Management, Economics, Marketing, Business or Journalism. Proficient in MS Office, Internet and e-mail. Must have **EXCELLENT** oral and written English skills, knowledge of Fukien or Mandarin an advantage but not required.

SECRETARY

Selected candidate will perform administrative and secretarial duties; organize and prepare venues for meetings and special events; organize proper filing of all files, communications and documents. Must be able to communicate well with senior management and corporate professionals.

Female, 32 -40 yrs old. Must have **EXCELLENT** oral communication skills in English and Chinese. Trustworthy, responsible, flexible, organized, and detail-oriented with ability to multi-task.

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Selected candidate will be responsible for overseeing the management and maintenance of all office equipment and facilities; conduct regular site visits; establish and implement maintenance care program; evaluate company operations for efficient and optimal use of resources and equipment.

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- **May 29 CALAMBA, LAGUNA @ 2PM** - Riverview Resort & Conference Center, Parian [Call Minnie (049) 545-1856 / (049) 545-2112 | Grace (02) 879-8396]
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Workplace altars

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

YOU'RE all familiar with offices and workplaces of the pious Pinoy. Statuettes and images of favorite saints like Sto. Nino, the Mother of Perpetual Help, St. Therese, etc. make up a virtual altar that serves as the presence of the divine in the place of work. I like having reminders of the divine around, too, although mine may differ from the usual.

About 20 years ago, I had this five-inch white ceramic figurine of a Chinese male deity—maybe it was Lao-Tse, Confucius, I couldn't care less. I bought it because it reminded me of Jesus—low-key, pure and serene. I put it in a shallow bowl filled with water plants and placed it on my desk. One day, a visitor who couldn't contain her curiosity asked, "*Sino 'yan?*", pointing at the figurine. "*Si* Jesus," I said, grinning. She protested, "*Paano magiging si* Jesus, *eh Intsik 'yan?*" I teased her, "*Si* Jesus *iyan, naka*-Chinese costume *lang*." Amused by her reaction I wanted to tease her further, but instead I just asked, "How can the Chinese understand Jesus if he doesn't speak their language?" The riddle obviously baffled her but I'd told her the truth as I saw it. Now today's Gospel reminds me of that incident.

"God so loved the world ... (He didn't love only Israel) ... that He gave His only Son ..." And the Son became one of us and lived among us. And when His life on earth was over He sent the Holy Spirit. The Spirit can't be bound by externals like clothes, skin color, national boundaries, etc.—the Spirit of God is now among us, with us, in us, embracing us all in the Blessed Trinity. Yes, including our disagreeable coworkers. If this truth could prevail, our little workplace altars wouldn't have been in vain. (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com.)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

Gospel: John. 3:16-18

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

Work and God's love

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

I HAVE seen a number of times the dramatic exchanges of marriage vows between man and woman in the sacrament of matrimony. It always intrigues me how sincerely each one pledges his or her love for the other, and I wonder how such love can compare with that of God's love, which today's Gospel speaks of—a love which is proven not just in words but one which is shown in deeds, in giving up something or someone so dear and so loved, making a great sacrifice for the beloved.

After the long-awaited, exciting, colorful and even expensive wedding day celebration, the couple faces the day-to-day grind of making a living through each one's work, business or other means of livelihood for the family. The exchange of love between man and woman is now done without the lights, cameras, costumes, well-decorated churches and the merry-making of the wedding day; instead, it is expressed concretely in an undecorated workplace with unglamorous and monotonous tasks and duties demanded by the job, with simple working clothes on and tools for the job on hand. The words of love said for each other at the wedding ceremony, would now have to be shown in deeds of dedication and self-sacrificing work, giving one's time, talents and the whole of oneself so that the beloved will live and be happy through what is earned by work.

When work and working become concrete expressions of our love for another, then, we love as God loves, and our beloved will believe and experience for real God's love which is truly life-giving and everlasting. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net.)

What are a new graduate's chances ...

From page 14★

organization. Know these people well, their styles, their wants, their motivations, and how best to deal with them.

2. Continually assess your strengths and weaknesses. Ask friends, peers, and bosses to evaluate the results you are producing and find out how you can improve. Know where you are good at and capitalize on it. Negate or compensate for your weaknesses by learning how to improve yourself. Don't wait for others to tell you these things—extract these from others.

3. Manage your time and other resources well. Identify the things you value in life and career—e.g., health, family, friends, image, travel, learning, etc. Try to build some tasks into your daily "to do" list that will enhance these things that you value in life. When you realize that there are other things more important in life to you, you will not be unduly dragged into compromising just for the sake of producing results. It will also help you to set the right priorities.

4. Prioritize. You must realize that you cannot do everything, especially at the same time. Early on, determine the most important things that you and you alone can do. Focus on these. Find ways for others to help you produce the results you need. Learn how to communicate, motivate and develop other people so that you can count on them to produce the right results for you.

5. Be nice to yourself—don't overwork yourself to death. Stress can kill! A normal person can only take so much workload. Your energy level changes over time. Learn how to match your energy levels and the challenges of work. When your energy level and the work challenges are at the same level, you tend to give peak performance. When the challenges are greater than your energy level, you will experience burnout. When your energy level is higher than the challenge, you can experience boredom and distress. Lastly, find time to recharge your energy level, at which time you should also refrain from engaging in any challenge, mental or physical.

I opted to talk about these things that I am sure were not taught in school. By the way, people at work who aspire for bigger pay and promotion can also benefit from this.

In the end, it is not education, but the ability to produce results that create value for your organization. This is the single most important skill that must be learned and mastered by people at work.

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. He was the president of Personnel Management Association of the Philippines or PMAP in 1999. His career books are available at popular bookstores. Send feedback to ernie_cecilia@yahoo.com.)

Office wars ...

From page 14★

as your career mentor will surely help in building the competencies you need to succeed at work and life. The mentoring relationship is one that should be used for your professional growth and not for utilitarian purposes like getting financial perks from the company.

Success of the rebellion

6. Mean pranks (like getting a dead rat on your table) are certainly mean but cannot be considered "pranks." If such an incident happens in your office, this incident must be reported and properly investigated. The person responsible for such misbehavior can be given the appropriate disciplinary action. The disciplinary action can range from a reprimand, suspension from work and even termination for a just cause. Like Luke Skywalker in the final battle with Darth Vader, you have to confront the enemy to make sure he can no longer do evil.

With this battle plan, the rebellion of the office "sip-sip" will surely succeed in placing work excellence, teamwork and open communication in the proper perspective—worthy traits worth polishing by every globally competitive Pinoy. May the WorkForce be with you all!

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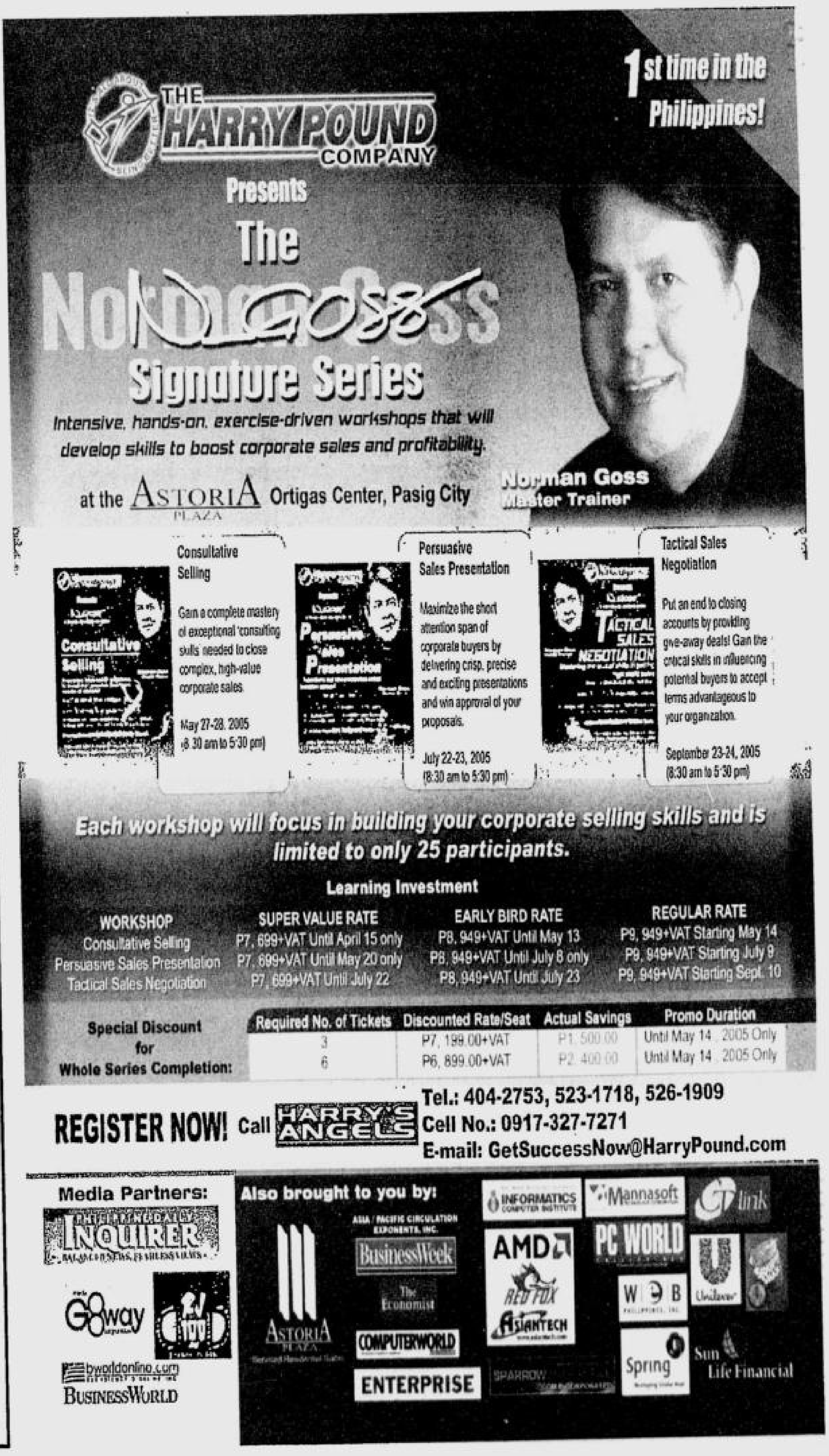

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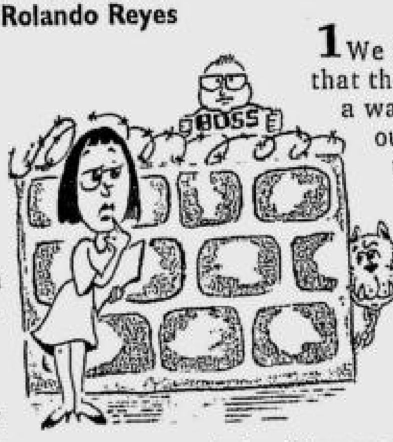
The boss is also human!

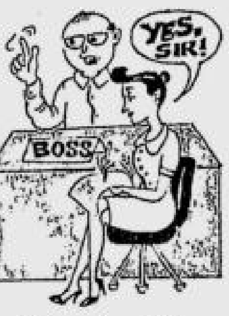
Text by Teresa Reyes Tunay
Illustration by Rolando Reyes

BEST
Attitudes

EVEN if you think you are just an "ordinary employee" in your workplace, you can make a difference when it comes to worker-boss relationship if you believe that your boss is more than just a "boss."



1 We tend to think that there has to be a wall between our bosses and us. This is true to a certain extent, for familiarity certainly undermines professionalism. Lest we be accused of being disrespectful towards our boss, we try to "keep distance."

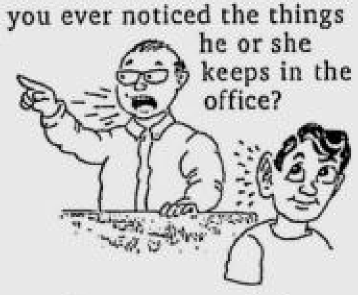


2 We keep our communication with the boss to a "professional" level, talking only of things connected with work. We only answer his questions, do as we are told, and report on our work, but that's about it. Outside of work, our boss is also out of our life.

3 We may be playing safe, keeping our distance but we also could—be missing much that could make for a richer, more rewarding relationship with another human being. Remember that the boss, despite the externals and the trappings of his or her position, is also human—he has a family, a life outside of the workplace, and a heart, too!

4 Maybe bosses don't realize it but one reason they can be so cranky sometimes is precisely that: that their work also compels them to act inhuman (that's either superhuman or subhuman)—an elite robot but a robot still.

5 There are little ways to see the person behind the boss. It's all about paying attention—tuning in to the boss' inner person by taking note of the outer expressions. For instance, have you ever noticed the things he or she keeps in the office?

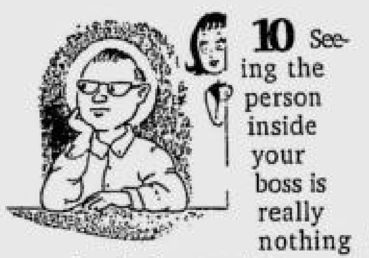


6 An NCAA basketball trophy for being the Most Valuable Player in 1965? A poodle in the family photos? A homemade throw pillow? ...

7 ... a dozen rose-shaped candles made by prison inmates? A Russian icon? A collection of "Lord of the Rings" figurines?

8 Pay attention to what he (or she) says off guard during meetings, the side remarks he makes or takes. Observe what he most animatedly talks about, or the kind of talk he ignores.

9 These little things are clues to the person, and give you hints at how to acknowledge—in due time—the person within the boss. Feel your way through and study how you can use these things to create a humane link between you and your boss. When you think it's called for, you may ask a question, make a comment or give a compliment on the things close to his heart.



10 Seeing the person inside your boss is really nothing more than being a caring human being. Genuine sensitivity to others is at the root of every fulfilling human relationship. You might think you are gambling by trying to acknowledge the person of your boss, but there is actually nothing to lose in so doing even if you later find out that it's not getting you anywhere. In fact, "getting somewhere" is not the point; you have everything to gain by being more caring and sensitive.

11 One thing you shouldn't forget, though, is that you are striving for more harmonious relations between you and your boss only for the sake of the work. You are not sucking up to the boss, nor are you intending to replace good honest work with a strong personal "connection" with your superior.

MODEL WORKER

12 Therefore, you are above all a true and devoted worker. You will then continue to improve your performance and upgrade your skills, knowing that in the workplace, this is what counts first and last.

Learn by illuminating...

From page 14★

veal that "our effectiveness as leaders depends not only on what we do and how we do it, but also on the inner place from where we operate, both individually and collectively." The significance of this inner place is considered to be a blind spot in leadership research. "We don't see and pay attention to this inner place, yet this is what matters most," Dr. Scharmer says.

The book, "Presence," points to the fact that there is a new view of knowledge and leadership that is emerging, and it is one that "emphasizes the quality of awareness and attention as the primary driver for high performance and creativity within and around social systems." The book embraces a "perspective on leadership and social change that is based on the capacity of humans to illuminate the blind spot."

Stuck in patterns

Individuals and organizations today are stuck in patterns where solutions are arrived at through the process of downloading, or taking an existing framework and applying it to the situation at hand. With downloading, people simply react to the past, leading to the creation of results that nobody really wants. No profound change actually happens, and even the future becomes blocked because leaders keep on looking at the past, and basing their actions on past experience.

There is a need for a process that will take us deeper, and allow us to "see, sense, and realize new possibilities in ourselves, our institutions and organizations, and in society itself." This process is what the book teaches. The authors believe that we are capable of creating an awareness of the whole, and that we can see and act such that the whole evolves, and our highest possibilities are realized.

(*Send feedback to* blubitel@yahoo.com.)

Speaking Your Way to the Corporate World

INDEED, an outstanding mastery and superior command of the English language would take you places. One exceptionally skilled student from the Far Eastern University (FEU) can attest to this.

Loveriel Bacallo, was the very first recipient of the *Convergys Recognition for Excellence in English Oral Communication*. The award was given during her graduation day at the PICC last April 11.

"It was not easy for the nominated students to bag the award. The students nominated by Far Eastern University underwent a series of panel interviews with the screening committee of the Convergys Recruitment Team.

In many ways, the interviews prepared me professionally because as a fresh graduate, I needed to be equipped with the proper communication and interpersonal skills in order for me to land a job.

I was so happy because I learned that the recipient would not only receive a plaque but would also be offered a job in Convergys! It was hitting two birds with one stone.

I think this award has given emphasis on the study and use of the English language. It also showcased the elevation of the quality of education that we have here in the Philippines. Filipino graduates are now becoming globally competitive.

Now that I am with Convergys, I feel that I am in good hands. I'm happy to have started my career with a company that built its name on integrity, loyalty, professional growth and above all personal growth. I am forever grateful to be given the opportunity of growing with Convergys."

Dreamlight Studio

Loveriel Bacallo,
B.S. Psychology
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The *Convergys Recognition for English Excellence* program was developed and implemented by the campus recruitment team of Convergys Makati. Out of every participating school's graduating batch, only two individuals with an exceptional command of the English language shall be hand-picked to be the recipients of the awards. This year, the Far Eastern University was the only participating school in the program. The university is one of the Company's top providers of employees. FEU has also recently opened its newest call center course geared towards honing the competencies needed for the industry.

The program recognizes the two core competencies in the usage of the English language—Oral Communication and English Writing. The candidates for the awards were selected by the respective deans of the participating schools based on the students' academic performance, awards received, and organizations they were affiliated with.

The nominees underwent a series of screening process; namely: a computer-based assessment, a final interview, an oral communication assessment interview (for the oral communication award) and essay writing test (for the English writing award), and for the short-listed candidates, a panel interview with the Convergys Recruitment screening committee.

The *Convergys Recognition for English Excellence* program is in line with the Company's undertaking of promoting the use of English language in the country.

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Philippine Daily Inquirer president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and Carol V. Dominguez, president-CEO of John Clements Consultants Inc. sign the memorandum of agreement at the Inquirer building, second floor lobby. Also in the photo from left are Inquirer Classified Ads Provincial Manager Nanette Abad, John Clements Marketing Consultant Cyril Dela Rama, Inquirer SVP for Sales and Marketing Rene Reinoso and Inquirer Classified Ads Division Head Jesse Rebustillo.

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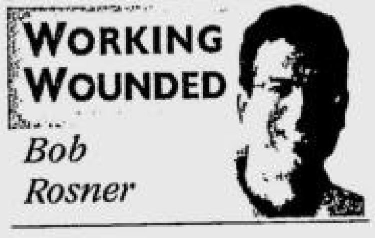
How do you promote yourself with your boss?



DEAR WW: I don't really get along with my boss. It's not for want of trying; we just don't seem to get along. Is there anything that I can do to turn this around?

Buddies Not

A friend of mine recently told me about his son's first day in high school. They had a family policy of no tattoos, piercings or anything that would permanently change your appearance. So his kid came home with a green Mohawk. My friend suggested that he not go to school with this haircut, fearing that it increased the odds that the older kids would hassle him. Not only didn't this happen, his son made a lot of friends because the upperclassmen liked his attitude.

Just as my friend was out of touch with what was going on in his kid's high school, far too many of us fall out of touch with what is important to our bosses. I've listed a series of strategies below to help you get on the same page. For more, check out "Secret Handshake" by Kathleen Reardon (Currency, 2000).

Do you offer to pitch in to help when your boss looks pressured? Most of us don't make our boss' problems our problems; that is one of the beauties of being "just" an employee. But if you want to improve your relationship with your boss you've got to go past just doing the minimum at work. Start by asking, "Anything that I can do to help you or the department?"

Do you look for information that your boss can use? Scan trade publications, newspapers and magazines for ideas and information that relates to your customers, company and industry. It's easy to take 15 minutes each morning for a quick web search. Share what you find with your boss and colleagues.

Do you always bring a solution whenever you identify a problem at work? Sure some problems defy solutions. But those are relatively rare. Most often a solution is easy to identify, but most people don't take the time to come up with alternatives. Those who do are almost always seen in a positive light by the boss.

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Do you keep your boss in the loop? You won't do yourself any favors by flooding your boss with email or "CC:ing" him on everything you write. But it is wise to keep your ear to the ground on what is happening and to let your boss know. If you want your boss to watch your back, start by showing him that you are watching his.

Do you avoid sucking up? For anyone but a total narcissist, sucking up is easy to spot. So you need to do it very carefully. In fact, as a boss I valued constructive criticism much more than people who brown-nosed. Keep an eye on your boss to see what he or she values.

Follow these tips and your boss won't look at you like you're wearing a green Mohawk, he'll see you as a valued member of his team.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: How do you feel about talking yourself up with your boss?

—Something I love to do, 16 percent

—I'd rather drink Clorox, 39.1 percent

—A necessary evil, 44.7 percent

(*Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at* bob@workingwounded.com.)

Office wars: revenge of the 'sip-sip'

By Regina Galang Reyes
People at Work editor

OBI-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor, left) and Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) launch a daring rescue attempt aboard an enemy ship, in "Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith." AP

WHEN a person performs his job well or when she is on good terms with her boss, why is it that some jealous coworker would immediately label the person as someone "sucking up" to the bosses? In Pinoy lingo, he is a *sip-sip*. This is a case where positive traits (work excellence and good interpersonal relations) turn good employees into workplace outcasts. Seems strange? Well, not in the Pinoy workplace where peer pressure (or is it crab mentality?) conspire to prevent Filipino workers from becoming globally competitive.

In some offices, the pressure is no small thing; it can take the form of malicious gossip, anonymous poison letters and mean pranks (think Drew Carey). With these weapons, the office becomes a battleground where wars are waged with as much sinister intent and means as the protagonists in "Star Wars." And people who just want to do well at work become easy targets for snipers who have no work to do (or simply don't want to do work).

Master plan

So, what can an office "sip-sip" do? Well, here is a master battle plan to implement the revenge of the "sip-sip."

1. When your boss gives you an assignment, accomplish it well and submit it early. Make sure the office stormtrooper sees you turning it in and getting praise from your boss. Savor the moment as he rattles his weapons futilely.

2. In your department's regular meetings, be sure to give your two cents worth of ideas on how to improve your department's operations or solve your department's problems without dominating the meeting. For all you know, your two cents may be worth thousands of pesos in terms of savings or new revenues for your company. As you voice your suggestions, make eye contact with the office clones and see them contorting in jealous fits before finally exploding in bits and pieces.

3. Be as helpful as you can to coworkers in your department and other departments. After all, everyone benefits when the company progresses and achieves its goals. Building an atmosphere of friendly cooperation and teamwork will contribute a great deal to discouraging empire building at work. People who withhold support for new ideas because they find pleasure in seeing other people fall flat on their faces are like the sycophants of the Emperor. It will be harder for them to "trip" people who have created a strong bond of mutual cooperation and benefit.

Battling the "Dark Side"

4. Be open to giving and receiving positive and negative feedback from your coworkers and superiors. Nothing irritates the "Dark Side" more than bringing to light (and truth) information provided by catty gossips. The lightsabers of sincere and respectful communication among all levels will surely cut through the crap of deceit and lies.

5. Only cowards hide behind the anonymity of unsigned complaints or poison letters. If you do become a victim of such a dastardly act, like a true Jedi, use your superior mind to simply ignore these filthy missives and its senders. When you believe the enemy does not exist, then he will surely fade into oblivion.

6. Learn from your office Jedi Master Yoda. There are wise, good and powerful people in your company and having one

OFFICE/P.12★

Learn by illuminating the blind spot

By Ime Morales Aznar
Contributor

(First of two parts)

IS IT POSSIBLE to bring into being profound collective changes that will lead to a shift in the way we understand and create the world as we know it? In "Presence: Human Purpose and the Field of the Future" (published by the Society for Organizational Learning, 2004), authors Peter Senge, C. Otto Scharmer, Joseph Jaworski and Betty Sue Flowers, affirm that it is indeed possible for global change to happen, and for people to learn to "access, individually and collectively, our deepest capacity to sense and shape the future."

Dr. C. Otto Scharmer, one of the authors of the book, was in Manila recently for the book launch, and to give two leadership workshops for Filipino leaders. The workshops, called "Presence—Harnessing the Hidden Intelligence in the Individual and Organizations," were two different events: a two-day leadership retreat held at the Meralco Management and Leadership Development Centre, and a one-day workshop in University of the Philippines Diliman. The activities were organized by Karangalan in partnership with Global Leadership Initiative , Center for Alternative Development Initiatives, Organizational Change Consultants International, Inc. and www.truthforce.info.

The two different sources of learning

Dr. Scharmer received his Ph.D. in Economics and Management from Witten/Herdecke University in Germany 10 years ago. From there, he went to MIT in Boston to expand his knowledge and experience in the fields of leadership and organizational learning. Within this period of 10 years, Dr. Scharmer shares, his main insight was that "there are two different sources of learning, or two different learning cycles."

SCHARMER RODEL ROTONI

First, there is learning through reflection on the experiences of the past. This method is fairly common and it's where all the great organizational learning methods are built on. But according to Dr. Scharmer, "the challenges that we are facing as a society today are of the kind that cannot be overcome with the use of just our past learnings." Experiential learnings may be incomplete, or inappropriate, or are sometimes the very obstacles to the shaping of solutions. The second source of learning, therefore, has nothing to do with the past, but with "the future that is wanting to emerge."

Intelligence of the heart

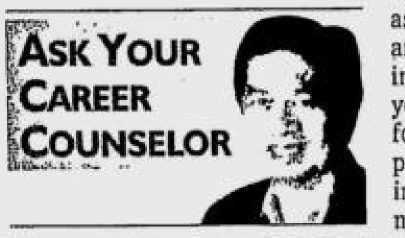
Based on the results of Dr. Scharmer's (and his co-authors') interviews with 150 thought leaders—leading thinkers on knowledge and leadership, like inventors, entrepreneurs, scientists, social leaders and academics—"many of the ones who had created significant innovations in their work were actually operating on the second source of knowledge." This intelligence, or knowledge source, could be referred to as emotional intelligence, or the intelligence of the heart.

There is a method that allows leaders to link with the incipient force, the emerging future, in order to bring the possibility that they sense, into reality. Dr. Scharmer and his co-authors re-

LEARN/P.13★

What are a new graduate's chances of getting and keeping a job?

By Ernie O. Cecilia



I JUST graduated from college a few weeks ago and I am feeling stressed for several reasons. Firstly, my parents expect me to get a job soon. Secondly, I did not graduate from any of the top universities. Thirdly, I do not have great grades in school. Fourthly, I have had no skills training to qualify immediately for a decent job. Finally, I do not know how to compete for the few jobs available for unskilled, new graduates.

I have friends and schoolmates who graduated last year and are still jobless today. I am afraid that unless I do something drastic and different, I will suffer the same fate. What should I do to increase my chances of getting hired soon? If I get a job, what should I do so that I keep that job and get promoted faster?

Anxious Graduate

You seem to have every reason to be apprehensive about starting your career. That is normal for young, inexperienced people entering the workplace without ample preparation other than a college education. You are in good company—just like the millions of jobless hoping to get a job, but who seem not to know where to start right.

In this column, I will not enumerate what to do in order to get a job—just get a copy of my book "How to Get a Job" at popular book stores. (That book will answer your first question and increase your chances of getting hired soon.) Instead, I will tell you that education is not enough to get you a good career and, therefore, why you should not worry even if you didn't graduate from top universities. I am not saying, however, that you should not endeavor to get that kind of education from top universities—it helps, but it is not the major consideration in one's career.

I have talked with thousands of people at work, in the companies I worked for and consulted with, and those who attended my seminars. Year after year, they tell me the same thing—at the workplace, they use very little of what they learned in school. I have also talked with successful people at work, and have discovered that soon after they left school (about two years), their education had little or no impact on their career. People at work with great careers, however, have one thing in common—the ability to perform and produce results that create value for their organization.

So, you don't have to worry too much that you did not graduate from top universities or had excellent school grades. But, that is not to mean that education is not a factor to consider in hiring. In fact, it is common knowledge that some large companies, rightly or wrongly, prefer graduates of top universities, sometimes even for menial jobs.

If you think you can't compete now with scholars from top universities for jobs in large companies, start your career in a small or medium enterprise (SME). Perform well, get a good raise, get promoted, learn as many skills as you can, and then, in three years, look for higher-paying jobs in large multinationals. Or start your own business!

I have seen how many people who could not afford great education in top universities started their careers with that handicap. To overcome that handicap, they focused single-mindedly on producing results that create value for their organizations, and soon got the recognition they deserve. Good education and school credentials will give you a head start, but you still need to produce results. Believe me, a master's from the state university will not mean anything unless you use that education to produce valuable results for your organization.

Your second question (what to do in order to keep your job and get promoted faster) is, in fact, the subject of one of my books, "How to Keep your Job." Get a copy, if it is not sold out yet. But, I will add a few important tips here about producing results that create value for your organization.

The moment you get hired, continually ask yourself these three questions everyday:

1. What are the things that you do that contribute the most value to your company?

2. What is it that you and only you can do, that if well done, will make a difference to your company?

3. What is the most valuable use of your time?

Better yet, ask your boss to help you know the answers to these questions. If you focus on doing the tasks that your boss considers to be the most important and valuable use of your time, he will surely appreciate your contribution and you will get paid more and promoted faster.

Sadly, many of the people at work perform their daily routines without knowing how to produce best results that create value for their organizations. In fact, they just perform tasks, and sometimes it is not their fault. You only have to look at job descriptions to see that they are listings of tasks, not results—e.g., "sweep the floor" instead of "cleanliness of specific areas..."

In addition, here are a few simple tips to help you produce best results and move up your career ladder more quickly:

1. Be aware of your impact on others. Find out who supplies you with information or resources that you need to do a great job. Determine who uses your finished products or services, within and outside of your

WHAT/P.12★

What's inside

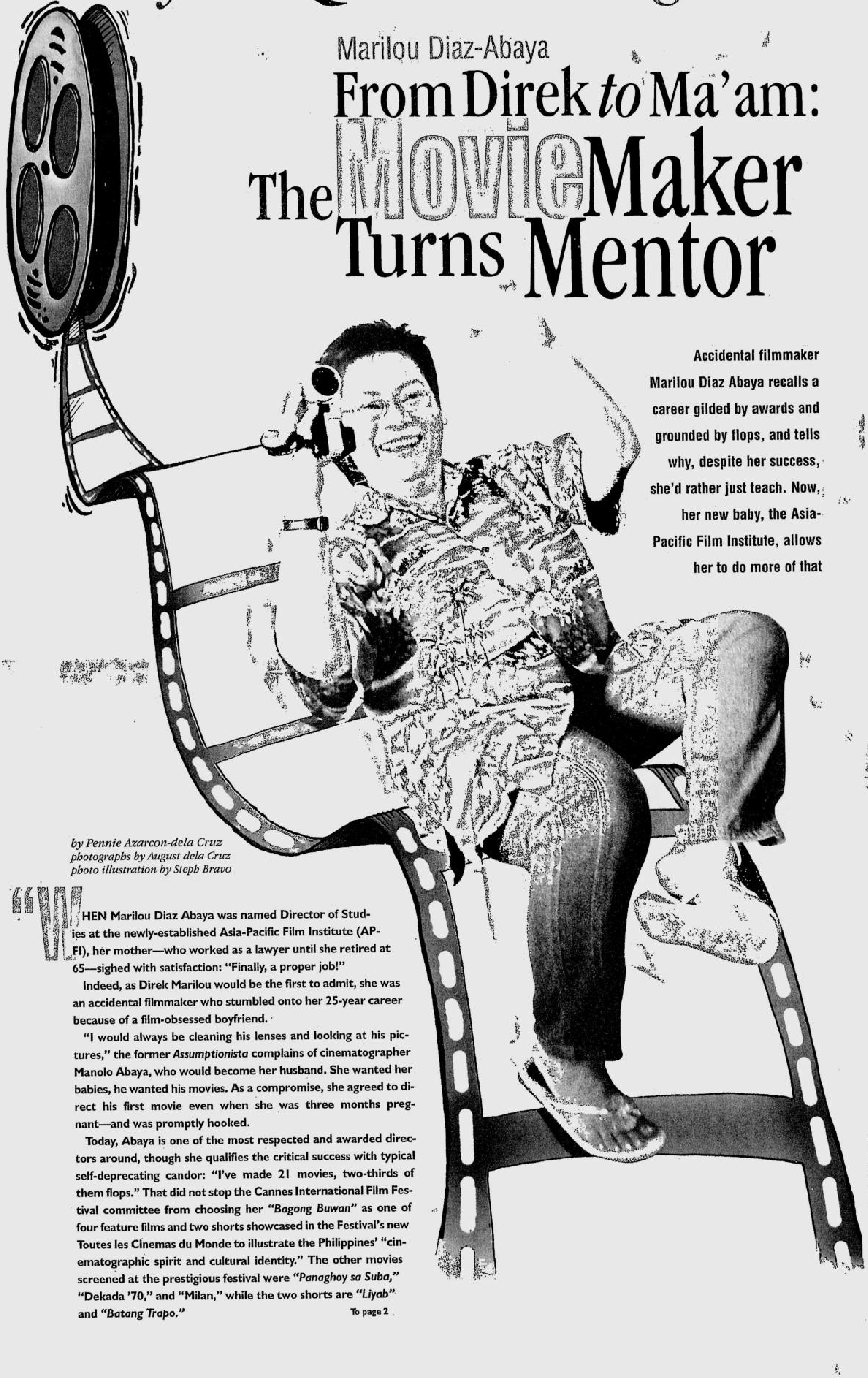
Reflections for the working soul *p.12★*

Best Attitudes: The boss is also human! *p.13★*

May 22, 2005
sundayINQUIRERmagazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

Marilou Diaz-Abaya

From Direk *to* Ma'am: The Movie Maker Turns Mentor



Accidental filmmaker Marilou Diaz Abaya recalls a career gilded by awards and grounded by flops, and tells why, despite her success, she'd rather just teach. Now, her new baby, the Asia-Pacific Film Institute, allows her to do more of that

by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
photographs by August dela Cruz
photo illustration by Steph Bravo

"WHEN Marilou Diaz Abaya was named Director of Studies at the newly-established Asia-Pacific Film Institute (AP-FI), her mother—who worked as a lawyer until she retired at 65—sighed with satisfaction: "Finally, a proper job!"

Indeed, as Direk Marilou would be the first to admit, she was an accidental filmmaker who stumbled onto her 25-year career because of a film-obsessed boyfriend.

"I would always be cleaning his lenses and looking at his pictures," the former *Assumptionista* complains of cinematographer Manolo Abaya, who would become her husband. She wanted her babies, he wanted his movies. As a compromise, she agreed to direct his first movie even when she was three months pregnant—and was promptly hooked.

Today, Abaya is one of the most respected and awarded directors around, though she qualifies the critical success with typical self-deprecating candor: "I've made 21 movies, two-thirds of them flops." That did not stop the Cannes International Film Festival committee from choosing her *"Bagong Buwan"* as one of four feature films and two shorts showcased in the Festival's new Toutes les Cinemas du Monde to illustrate the Philippines' "cinematographic spirit and cultural identity." The other movies screened at the prestigious festival were *"Panaghoy sa Suba,"* "Dekada '70," and "Milan," while the two shorts are *"Liyab"* and *"Batang Trapo."*

To page 2

This Chef Likes Her Food To Go, *p.4* • Carving Out A Future From Devastation, *p.5* • The Kid With The Ice Cream Dreams, *p.6*

Marilou

...from page 1

"Every kind of recognition and accommodation is welcome," says Abaya, who led the Philippine delegation to Cannes last May 20. "We're at the crossroads, and the movie industry as we've known it is dying. I'm hoping that young filmmakers and students would re-invent the industry," says this President of the APFI, the country's first truly professional film school, which opened in January this year. "It's a brave new world I'm anticipating, and I feel very privileged to assist in its birthing."

A film teacher at the Ateneo for 26 years now, Abaya confesses to a favorite childhood fantasy: "I've wanted to teach since I was 8," she says. "I've always fantasized that I was very scholarly, and that's why I used to hang out a lot with (columnist and TV host) Randy David and other academic types."

But an MA in Film and Television at the Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and the subsequent union with a cinematographer led her instead to a passionate affair with the movies that saw her, in late-term pregnancy, riding helicopters and straddling scaffoldings to get the best shots. "I felt very productive, very rewarded and very useful," she says of her lifetime career.

Remedial classes

Not that it was smooth going all throughout. "My first movie, *'Tanikala,'* failed miserably because I didn't know the audience," the director muses. So she took remedial classes at Jack's, this hangout in Cubao, where she immersed herself in the audience, listening to them talk, reading fan magazines and watching anything that had to do with Pinoy culture. Such grounding resulted in hit movies like *'"Brutal," "Ipaglaban Mo, the Movie," "May Nagmamahal Sa Iyo," "Jose Rizal," "Muro Ami," "Bagong Buwan"* and "Noon at Ngayon."

At work on "Bagong Buwan" with Cesar Montano and Caridad Sanchez: Turning a "culture of despair" around

PDI FILE

Abaya's advocacies have not sat well with some movie producers who think her "too political and too outspoken." But critical success has more than made up for the producers' tepid response and the limited audience. It also allowed her to tackle controversial subjects. *"Moral"* was about the doubts and dilemmas of today's women. *"Brutal"* dealt with domestic violence which many saw as a parallel to the martial law years, while *"Muro Ami"* (Reef Hunters) tells of marine destruction with children as metaphors for a desolate future. The film *"Bagong Buwan"* tells of the festering Muslim conflict in the South.

The director also tried her hand at television, directing public affairs shows "Public Forum" and "Sic O'clock News" in the years following the ouster of Marcos in Edsa I. "I liked the constancy and predictability of TV hours because I could organize my life around my children, who were then in grade school. TV was also kinder to me in terms of recognition and commercial success."

After six years, Abaya went back to the movies in 1992 with *"Kung Ako'y Iiwan Mo."* "During a break in the shoot, I fled to the bathroom and wept," she recalls. "I realized how badly I missed making movies."

It was while filming "Rizal" that Direk Marilou found her "sense of mission," as she describes it. "It was the biggest risk I've taken professionally," she reveals. "I wanted to do something beyond personal satisfaction, beyond the joy of telling a story. It's not only about what one does for a living, but rather who one does it for." With *"Muro Ami,"* she realized that the risks extended to the physical. "I had to make sure all the actors were safe, especially in the underwater scenes." But *"Bagong Buwan"* was the climax of what the director describes as "the shifting process of filmmaking."

Real war zone

"With that movie, I started worrying about myself—we had to shoot amid real bullets in a real war zone." The cast and crew had been caught in the middle of President Estrada's all-out war in Mindanao. "From doing a movie on orphans of the war, we saw orphans being made in real time."

For the movie, Abaya visited mosques, read the Qur'an, talked to Muslim leaders and even visited rebel areas as part of her research on Islam and the history of the Mindanao conflict. She knew she was at a disadvantage. "What could she, a Christian, say about us?" she quoted Muslims as saying when they heard about her movie.

Her earnest efforts and courage won them over. Recalls Pikit, Cotabato parish priest Robert Layson, whose real-life character was included in the movie: "Going to the rebel territory in the interior of Liguasan Marsh was a courageous act on the part of Direk Marilou. By going there, she gave the rebels a strong signal that she trusted them, understood their struggle and was serious about bringing their plight to the public through the movie."

He cried when he saw the movie, adds Layson. "I hate war but it's hard for us peace advocates to convince people that war is cruel. We have no way of reaching out to the larger public. But Abaya did it for us."

Confirms Taha Basman, a UNESCO commissioner and a Muslim consultant in the movie: "Direk Marilou has become a byword in Muslim households and truly deserves the honorary title, 'Bai-A-Adil,' which means Queen of Peace and Order."

The movie's impact couldn't have been stronger on its director, who found herself getting involved in the peace process long after the movie crew had packed up. Abaya joined Mothers for Peace and advocated for peace through teach-ins, seminars, and public service commercials. "Peacemaking comes more naturally with women," observes this mother of two grown men, Marco and David, themselves budding music artists and filmmakers. "The birthing experience has a profound impact on women because we feel totally responsible for another life inside. We are prepared to make peace to care for another life." The director is also involved with the Silsilah Peace Institute, that trains workers on the skills of peacemaking and on interfaith dialogue.

Work in progress

Shortly after the showing of *"Bagong Buwan,"* Muslim bandits were shown on the local news beheading their Christian captive. A nephew confronted Abaya: "I thought you said Muslims are good people," he said. His question made her think, says the filmmaker. "It made me realize that peace and peacemaking is always a work in progress, that it never stops and is as constant as breathing."

She adds: "Making peace is not just about silencing the guns. It has to start in our homes, with people who are close to us. At home, do we tolerate verbal abuse? At work, do we stand by when there's economic exploitation? If you invest in pineapple or rubber plantations, will you hire Muslims in Mindanao who pray five times a day and might not be as productive as non-Muslim workers? If not, you're being greedy. And greed is the one thing that stops the process of peace."

The critical success of *"Bagong Buwan"* has convinced the director that the days of old-style moviemaking are numbered. "The demographics have changed. Movies have become the past time of the middle class and the rich, not just the farmers and laborers. And the new audience has benefitted from higher education made possible by the remittances of overseas workers," she observes. "The audience now is more discriminating."

Such change can only bode well for filmmakers who now have a bigger role, says Abaya. "Filmmakers do not have to stop at public entertainment. It is their privilege to reverse the current culture of despair to a culture of hope." That keeps her going, she adds. "I make films because there are certain things in life I still don't understand. Through my films, I hope to understand them better. I don't always succeed, but I still get to reach more people. It is such a gift and a joy to just lean back and be taken care of for the next two hours!"

Passionate life

The eldest in a brood of seven born to a lawyer couple who met each other as classmates in law school, Abaya is as passionate about her other life as a film teacher. "When producer Ben Yalung asked if I wanted to start a film school using the extra space in his production outfit, I said yes before he was even finished speaking," recalls the director with a girlish giggle. "I need to teach," she explains. "I need to be with young people. I need to be questioned." Questions from her class keep her thinking on her toes, says Abaya. "You must allow yourself to be challenged and rejuvenated by the young. They're probably interested in the same things you are but asking different questions every time. They teach you that not all minds operate the same way."

The experience can be humbling, adds this teacher. "I learned that nothing is permanent. I'm not going to be permanently intelligent, talented, powerful or admirable, unless I keep working at it," says Abaya, who describes herself as a virtual stage mother in the classroom, as she transforms newcomers into storytellers on the big screen and later, as co-workers in the industry.

"My best hope is that we would be replaced by better filmmakers in the soonest possible time, then I would just be a teacher."

But not yet, fortunately. The filmmaker has a yearend project with Star Cinema, on the life of Jesus and the Holy Family set in Bacolor, Pampanga, where lahar has changed the landscape. She cannot reveal more, except to say that big stars have volunteered their services and that the production staff and crew include the Men of Light, a group led by Fr. Ambo David (Randy's brother), that the director has trained to produce video shows using the Sunday gospel "as an alternative to the commercial noise of free TV."

At 50, Direk Marilou might as well be in her golden years. "I feel very comfortable at this age," she says. " Half my life, I've been apologizing for my age and my gender, but now I feel that I've earned my place. I've earned the right to call everybody *anak* and I'm more comfortable now when they call me Mom or Ma'am." Q

Ma'am Marilou at APFI: "I need to teach. I need to be questioned"

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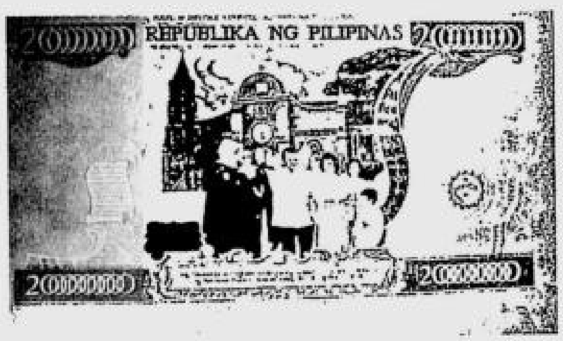


MONEY, MONEY, MONEY Multi-media artist Hermisanto is at it again, reinforcing his Konseptong Pinoy by adding another twist and turn to his controversial exhibits. In *Perang Pinoy ni Hermisanto,* the artist interacts with the viewing public with, well, money. One highlight not to be missed is his Paulang Pera. The show runs until May 31 at Mag:net Paseo, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Contact Genevieve at 817-7895 or e-mail magnet@pldtdls.net. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Taxi Music

It's become a habit, this backseat
sinking, a refrain on cue like swiping out
late. Outside, the highway plays
its nightly chords, other ways to wheel

you home. Taxi rides are grace notes
on clocked weekdays, luxuries you pocket
at overtime's end. Save that sometimes,
your ears pay an unexpected price:

Mellow Touch past midnight, its jingle
older than these streets. You are the minstrel
all over again, plucking at memory's
strings. A dashboard tiger, hardly sinister,

bobs its head to some alto's crooning.
No hi-hos from the windshield's dwarvish
seven, audience to the driver's off-key
whistling. On-air strumming turns

streetlights, shanties—even the whole city
and moon notated on a sheet of sky—
into instruments, percussive to your
melodious pain. How suburban, the way

sadness is rerouted, recycled like sighs
from chests to airwaves, pitched
as lullabyes for wakeful clichés tuned in
to this station tonight. Too relaxing,

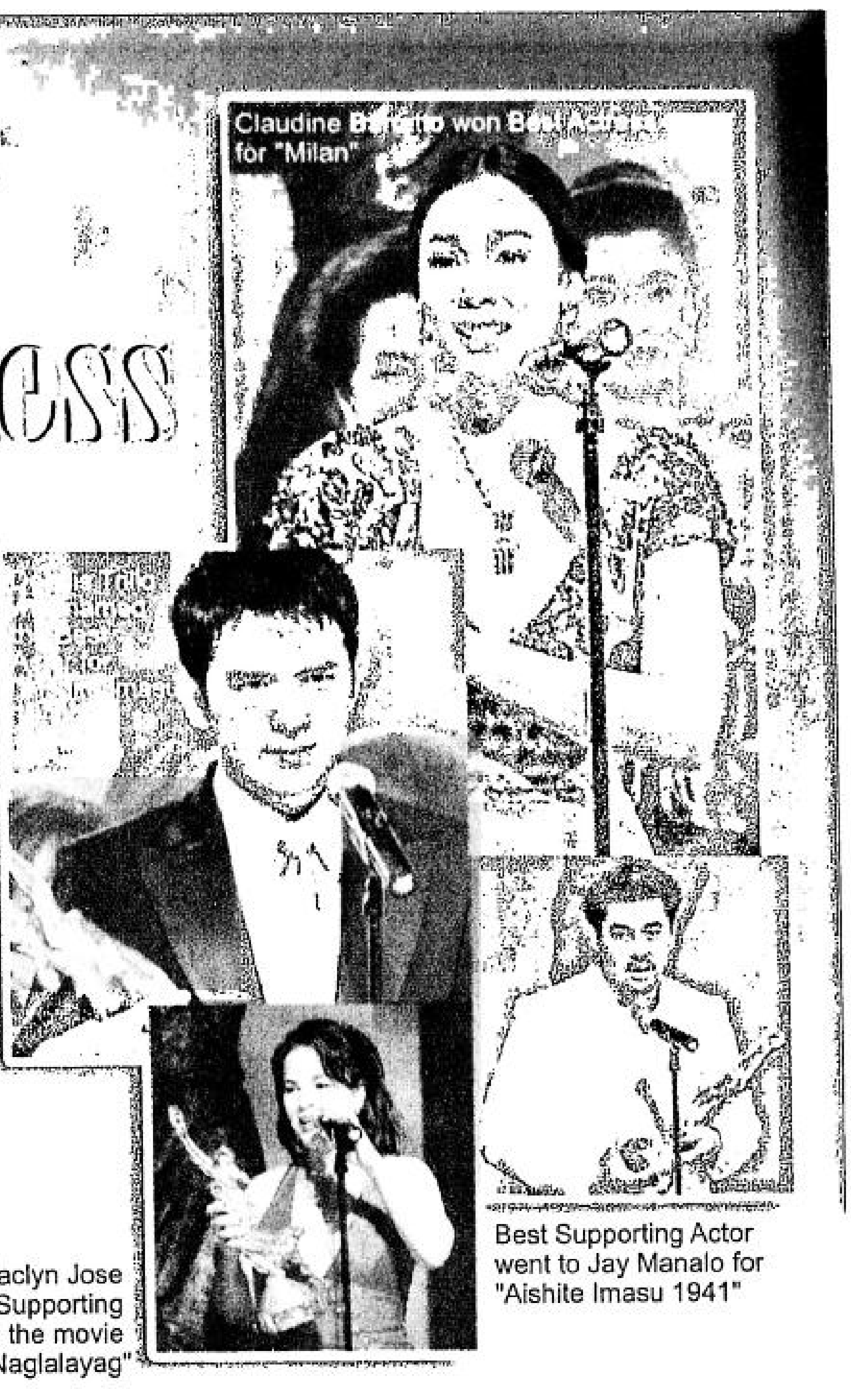
to remember who it is you're missing.
A woman belts out someone else's ache
and somewhere, a girl in a house
you just passed, cries herself to sleep

to this same song. No one is beyond
sappiness. Tomorrow, you will work
despite your bass heart's drumming.
Upholstery muffles your solo humming.

Naya S. Valdellon

SMART Celebrates Filipino Cinema Greatness

Looking Forward at FAP



Claudine Barretto won Best Actress for "Milan"

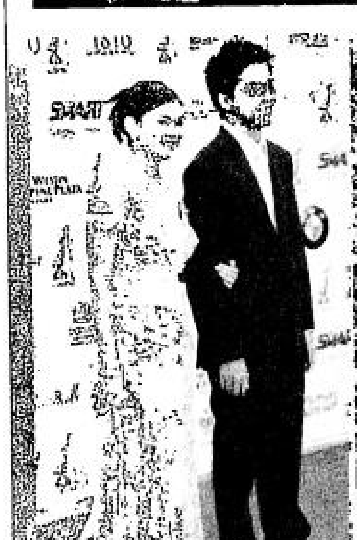
Best Supporting Actor went to Jay Manalo for "Aishite Imasu 1941"

Jaclyn Jose is Best Supporting Actress in the movie "Naglalayag"

Score it as another triumph for Philippine movies. Without missing a beat, this year's Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP) awards held May 14, 2005 at a grand tent erected on the Westin Philippine Plaza grounds was a heady encore for last year's event.

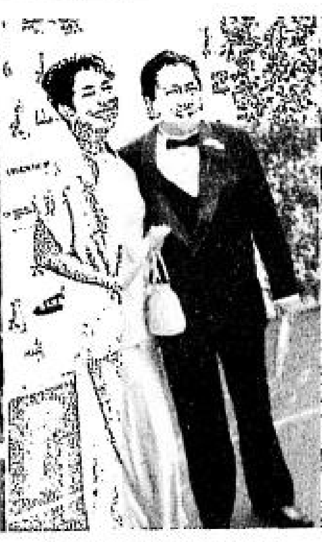
"We believe in local talent. Above all, we believe that Philippine movies once more may attain the heights most befitting to them," said Boy Martirez, Personal Communications and Mobile Services Head at SMART Communications. Mr. Martirez accepted the FAP's Luna Award for 2005 in recognition of SMART's continuing support to local cinema.

Hosts Cherie Gil and Martin Nievera interview event organizer Albert Martinez



Young stars Angelica Panganiban and Mark Herras

Showbiz power couple: Sandy Andolong and Christopher de Leon



Leo Martinez with wife Gina Valenciano-Martinez

Asia's Songbird, Regine Velasquez

Martin Nievera was the host of the evening

The alluring Aubrey Miles

Tak 'N Text endorser Marvin Agustin

Dashing Wendell Ramos

"Master Showman" German Moreno and Atty. Espiridion Laxa

Assunta de Rossi was elegance personified

Raymart Santiago and fiancée Claudine Barretto

This year's FAP saw it all, and more. The red carpet, the cavalcade of glitz and glamour by now are staples of the scene. Dennis Trillo won Best Actor and Jay Manalo, Best Supporting Actor. Best Actress went to a very happy Claudine Barretto and Best Supporting Actress to Jaclyn Jose. And Best Picture went to "Aishite Imasu 1941", a gripping tale of guerilla intrigue in wartime Philippines with a novel twist.

We're looking forward to next year's FAP, and to ever higher achievements that this year's awards have inspired.

It's not just about watching movies...

It's about supporting our homegrown artists in the local film industry.

SMART
Simply Amazing!

Raising a toast to Philippine movies

Fireworks on display

Foodies

by Joy Rojas

This Chef Likes Her Food To Go

Al fresco fare: Pacheco with specialties Pan-Fried Bangus Belly with Green Mango Salsa, Pasta Chorizo, Stir-Fried Beef with Broccoli and Greens, and Beef Salad Pinoy Style

RAFFY LERMA

Vicky-Rose Pacheco, the chef behind the Chateau 1771 chain of borderless cuisine restaurants, is actually a grounded gourmet who enjoys eating outdoors, be it in a breezy Tagaytay picnic spot or a taxi driver's *turo-turo*

WHEN you work for four of the finest restaurants in the city, the thought of traveling with food all the way up to Tagaytay, as Vicky-Rose Pacheco and her group of friends did just recently, seems an exhausting, almost unnecessary chore. Still, Pacheco, executive chef, COO and managing partner of Chateau 1771, Sentro, Portico and Sidebar Café, gladly put out all the stops to what turned out to be another memorable outing. Held at a grassy spot next to Tagaytay's more popular Picnic Grove, the get-together saw the chef serve her party the likes of *bistek bangus*, salad with Thai-style dressing, and *putong ube*, complete with silverware and china. Never mind if Tagaytay's fierce winds were making her lettuce fly in all directions. "It was fun!" says Pacheco with a laugh. "And I don't know why, but the food always seems to taste better in picnics, even when it gets cold."

Pacheco, as it turns out, has a long and colorful history with picnics. As a child, she recalls sprawling on the then greener grounds of the Luneta Park, munching on crabs, green mango salad, and chicken and pork *adobo*. The picnic venues would change as she got older—anywhere from Nayong Pilipino and the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife to the fringes of the Niagara Falls in Toronto, Canada—but the fare remained the same: light, refreshing home-cooked meals that keep long and travel well.

Key ingredient

Packing the right food, in fact, has been known to spark a signature dish every now and then. It was in the Toronto picnic where Pacheco would chance upon the key ingredient to her Beef Salad Pinoy Style. Left with nothing but the oil in a bottle of *tuyo* flakes, she put a dash of vinegar, poured the mixture on a bed of greens, and voila! Her *tuyo* vinaigrette was born.

The eldest of four kids, Pacheco is the daughter of gunless society proponent Nandy Pacheco and Priscila Reyes Pacheco, whose mother, the "Mama Sita" of condiments and food mix fame, is one of the children of Aristocrat restaurant owner *Aling* Asiang Reyes. Hers was a cooking and eating family. Relatives who didn't know their way around the kitchen were either jotting down recipes in well-guarded notebooks or hiring help to make the dishes for them. At fiestas in San Juan, a young Vicky-Rose watched in awe as cooks who came all the way from the province spent days in the kitchen making *morcon*, *embotido* and a host of party foods. Back then, the would-be chef's interest lay not so much in cooking the food but in eating it. "That's all I was waiting for!" she exclaims.

The original plan was to work in a hotel "so I was always *naka*-aircon," jokes Pacheco, who graduated with a hotel and restaurant administration degree from the University of the Philippines in Diliman. Hours of training at one of the prestigious hotels, however, served as a rude awakening. "Super turn-off," she confesses. "Aside from the culture shock, the general managers are changed every so often, so everyone working below the GM is totally unrecognized, unless he sucks up. That means if you have no position, you can work forever without being noticed. I thought to myself, 'Do I want to be part of something big—and yet feel like a chair?' Behind this glamorous setting is a whole culture of non-entity. I felt there had to be something more."

Cooking scene

By contrast, the personalized approach apparent in restaurants appealed to her. Pacheco, who pursued further hotel and restaurant studies in Switzerland during the mid '80s, had minimal cooking skills to speak of when she landed her first job in the Philippines in 1988—that of assistant manager at Chateau 1771 in Malate. "I didn't even know what

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Love Notes

Joe D'Mango

When the Best Isn't Good Enough

I tried to be a patient girlfriend. I didn't mind when he failed to call me. I really cared for him and tried really hard to make it work. Still, my efforts weren't enough

Dear Joe,

I was in a four-year relationship that my parents didn't know about. When I was in first year high school, I took the risk of breaking the house rules and got into a relationship with this guy. Fortunately, I was able to keep up my grades. Despite a huge fight, we were able to stay together throughout high school, partly because we were from the same school.

It was in college that we had bigger problems. Though we technically attended the same college, we went to different campuses. At first, we thought we could overcome the distance. But we eventually broke up and I tried to move on with my life.

Joe, I got so messed up after that. I tried going out with other guys but I knew I was just wasting their time. I still loved my ex very much. Six months later, we got back together. This time, I thought everything was going to work. Though we seldom saw each other, I tried to be a patient girlfriend. I didn't mind when he failed to call me. I really cared for him and tried really hard to make it work. Still, my efforts weren't enough.

He called me one Saturday to say he was giving up. He stopped answering my calls. When I asked him why, all he said was that he had fallen out of love.

I was really devastated. I got so drunk that day. Luckily, my friends were there for me. After that day, I realized that he wasn't worth the tears. I tried to be brave, particularly because I knew he would easily find somebody new, that he would move on easily without me.

But Joe, the thing is, I'm missing him right now. I miss the old times, the things we used to do together. I feel sick just thinking that he already has someone new. I don't know how to let go. I'm willing to do so, but I just don't know how. Please help me.

Damsel

Dear Damsel,

It is true that acceptance is the first step to moving on but I have always believed that we can never forget the person we love. You may have accepted that he doesn't love you anymore but have you really asked yourself if you feel the same way? I guess you really haven't gotten over your feelings for him. Your love is the chain that keeps you bound to your past and for as long as that love remains silently burning in your heart you will never forget the person that feeds that flame.

Damsel, acceptance will put one foot forward on the road to recovery, but the only way to move on completely is to get the other foot out from the love that binds your heart to him. Peace is in knowing that you are breathing the fresh air of the present without being tainted by the stale memories of the past. Every time you cry whenever you remember him adds one glowing ember to the flame in your heart. Every time you become sad when you think of your happy moments together blows more air to that burning fire. As long as there is that fiery emotion burning inside your heart, you will never be at peace with yourself.

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Pinoy taste

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To page 7

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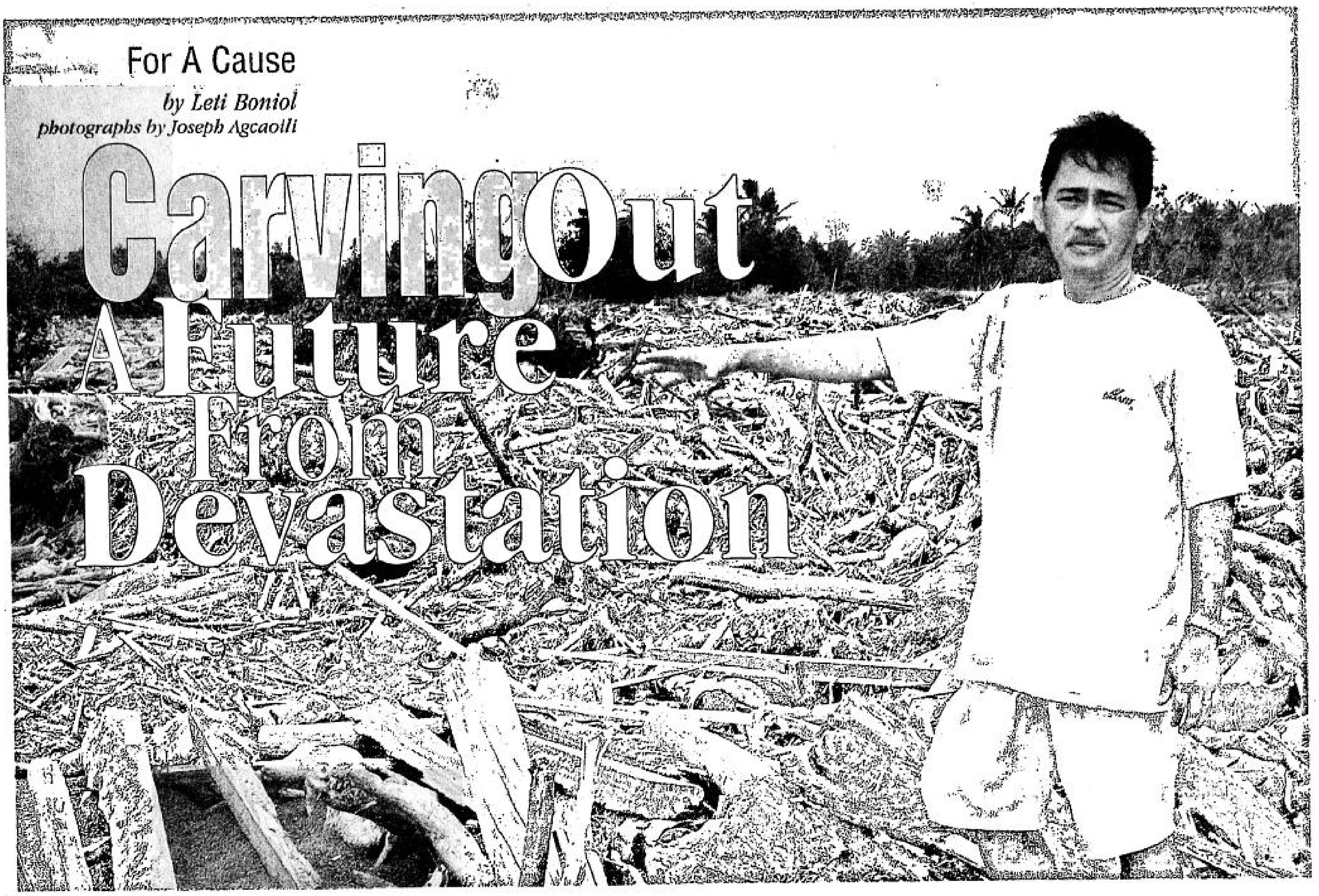
For A Cause

by Leti Boniol

photographs by Joseph Agcaoili

Carving Out A Future From Devastation



IT WAS a hot April morning in the village hall of Banglos, General Nakar, Quezon, but 15 men, women and youngsters couldn't be bothered by the heat. As part of their 10-day training on sculpting, the group was expected to submit individual pieces, which explains their frenzy as they carve out, chisel, sand, and varnish random pieces of wood to transform them into art forms and functional kitchen implements.

Self-taught sculptor Rey Paz Contreras had come to the village to help residents make use of the tons of tree debris delivered to their doorstep by rampaging flood waters after four successive typhoons in November and December last year. Selling the handcarved wooden items was seen as an alternative livelihood for the villagers, whose fishing boats and farms were devastated by the floods. The hands-on training was spearheaded by Gawad Kalinga and Smart Communications as part of its rehabilitation efforts for Banglos, which include the construction of 100 houses for families rendered homeless by the floods that hit Quezon.

But the best intentions may not always be apparent. Contreras, whose more than two decades of sculpting work has earned him several awards, recounted how only four participants came on the first day of the training. The people had expected relief goods, not training, said Darwin Flores, Smart Communications' manager for Community Partnerships. Having lost their boats and fishnets, the fisherfolk of the village wanted replacements for their loss, not training in a new, untried trade.

It wasn't until Contreras showed a video of how a similar community in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija rebuilt itself by transforming scrap lumber into art that they registered interest. A man from Pantabangan also came to share the community's experience in the sculpture business. "They saw how an enterprise is run, so they got ideas that they could do it too," said the sculptor.

Tricky training

Finding wood they could use for the training was as tricky. The local government had ruled that the logs swept away by the floods may not be harvested by the people nor brought out of the village. Fortunately, the group was given a permit to use the fallen trees to build houses and to start livelihood projects after the Gawad Kalinga and Smart people discussed with the mayor and the MENRO (municipal environmental officer) other alternatives to burning the logs for charcoal.

Said Flores: "The explicit design of the training was to use wood that have undergone aging through nature's work, and not freshly cut trees." Contreras noted that the trainees picked up the aged wood that surfaced on riverbanks and in public places. They were actually like scavengers, he said, picking up waste.

With that thorny issue settled, the training went on in April, with men, mothers with kids in tow, schoolchildren and teenagers picking up chisels and carving tools to work on pieces of wood. Contreras brought with him 11 workers from his Daambakal Studio in Tondo, who guided the locals on the rudiments of carving wood. When the trainees started getting the hang of it, their teachers gradually left them on their own. The participants were then divided into groups to work on a project, and on the fourth day, were expected to come up with individual outputs.

When guests dropped by, Contreras proudly showed off his wards' creations. There was Anna, a college dropout, who designed a huge lizard. There was also an 11-year-old honor student who came to the training at 7 a.m. and finished carving a goose.

The creative output Contreras traced to the villagers' enthusiasm to learn something new and an adventurous streak brought about by their confidence that they would not run out of raw materials. With so much logs in their midst, the participants could afford to experiment, throw out entries that they felt do not make the cut, and reach for another piece of wood. Observed Contreras: "We're more careful because we buy the wood, but the trainees we had couldn't care less. When they didn't like their creations, they discarded the wood and got another piece."

The trainees were also fast learners, he added. "They injected their own designs ahead of schedule, and knew how to varnish their pieces even before I could teach them how."

Sculptor Rey Paz Contreras taught the homeless and jobless folk of Gen. Nakar, Quezon, more than aesthetics when he showed them how to transform the logs washed down by the floods into environment-friendly works of art

'Fast learners': A boy creates a fish (above) while his menfolk listen intently as Contreras explains the rudiments of wood carving

Helping each other

One factor that encouraged creativity, said this sculptor, was the fact that in this village, everyone was related to everybody else. So there was cooperation and no envy. "They worked together and helped each other. Nobody tried to steal the limelight," he said, adding that this was something he didn't see in other training that he had conducted.

Talent was something innate among the Banglos folk, said the artist. It seemed natural for the children to carve toy boats that they pushed into the river to sail. Agreed Ramon Isberto, Smart's public affairs head: "The community had only limited time for the workshop and yet they showed great potential." More than aesthetics though, the trainees had something more serious in mind, said Contreras. They were more concerned with how to market their products, he added.

Unlike his trainees in Quezon, Contreras had the luxury of choosing his profession based not on economic necessity, but on love for his art. An accounting major from the Manuel L. Quezon University, he decided to shift careers because he didn't see himself wearing a *barong* everyday and poring over balance sheets. "I couldn't do hocus-pocus," he said, referring to the common practice among most businesses of having two accounting books.

Contribution to society

His grandfather and father, both hobbyists in art and sculpture, also encouraged Contreras to expose himself to different fields and later, to concentrate on what he did best. Success, they told him, is not measured in terms of cash but rather, one's contribution to society.

Not surprisingly, the former student council leader in college became an activist. He later founded the Daambakal Sculptors group based in Tayuman, Tondo, that uses discarded railway materials for sculpting. He is also a founding mem-

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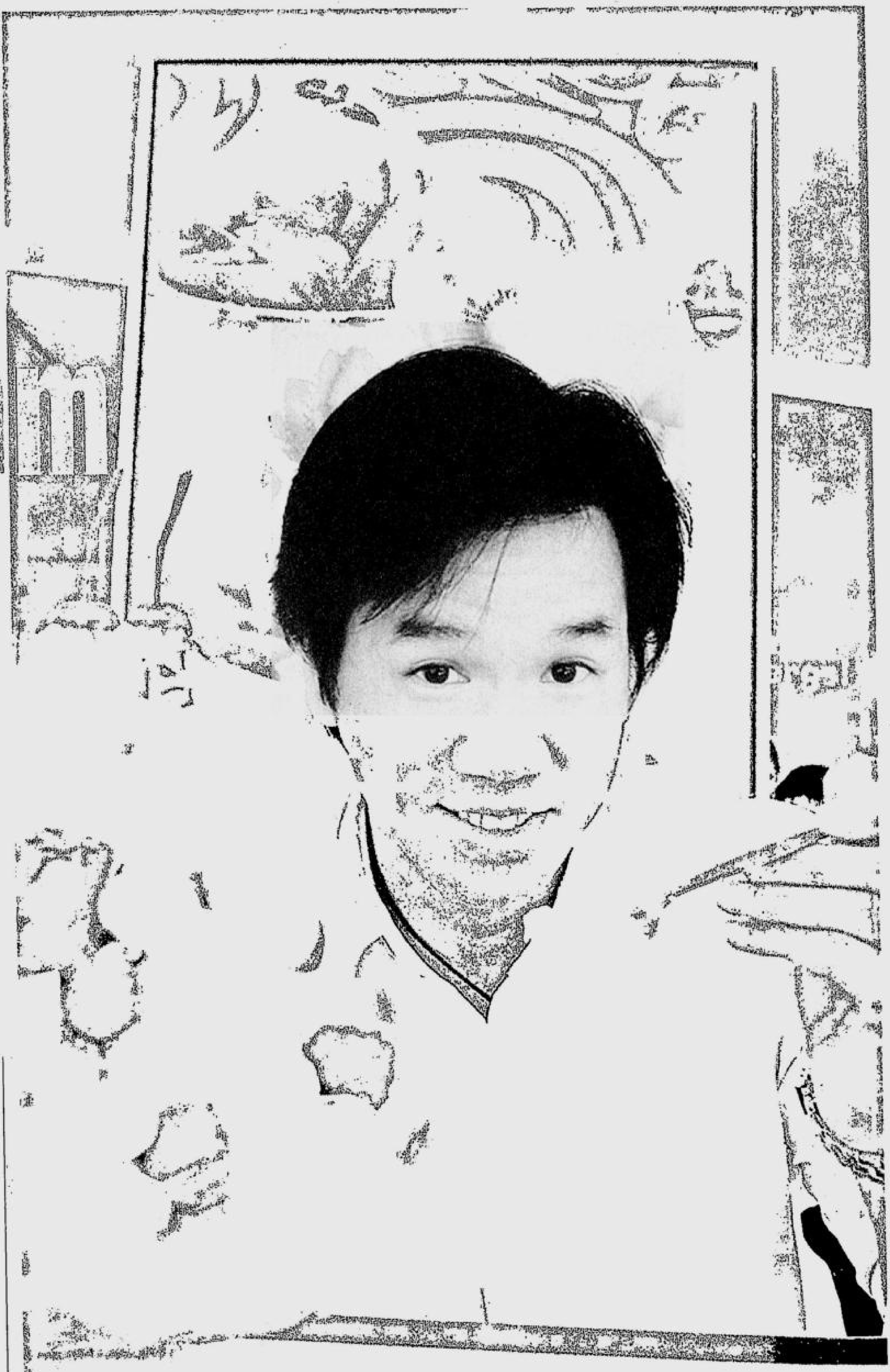
Businesswatch

by Cora Llamas

The Kid With the Ice Cream Dreams

Alan Young was only 18 when he dreamed up the cool goodies of Iceberg, all because he wanted to buy his own sportscar. Now, almost 20 years and 20 branches later, the hands-on entrepreneur has his sights set on a Boracay branch



RAFFY LERMA

FOUR times the teenager barely out of college waited at the leasing department of the newly-opened SM. He approached everyone he thought could help him, and pitched his proposal about a stall that would serve only ice cream, albeit in a dozen different flavors and combinations. But nobody would pay attention to a kid in *maong* and T-shirt. Finally, the secretary took pity on the determined youth and told him, "I'll give you a tip. Bring your father here next time."

Alan Young, then all of 18, followed the lady's advice. His dad, a businessman who dealt in imported chemicals, was both amused and encouraged by his son's audacity. After securing an appointment with the right managers, Youngs elder and younger sat down and threw their idea on the table. But the older man let his eldest son do the talking.

That was in 1986, and SM City was the first to lease tenant space to Iceberg Food Concepts Inc. It wouldn't be the last. In the next 20 years, one resto after another would open all over MetroManila.

Hot shot

Today, Alan, now in his late thirties, sheepishly admits that creating an ice cream chain of stores at a time when franchising was not even in vogue was farthest from his mind then. Nor did he harbor dreams of becoming the next hot-shot entrepreneur. At that time, he was taking up Management Studies in preparation for corporate law. "I just wanted a BMW," he confesses with a grin, "even an old one. I figured then that if I was going to ask that from my parents, I'd be embarrassed. I should do something good and work *muna.*"

He takes a look at the spacious area of the Makati branch where families sit down to enjoy the cool cobblers and salacious splits meant to diminish the effects of a hot summer. "I never thought this would grow." It was his mother who owned the original outlet in Timog, a humble corner that took up probably only a sixth of the space of the Makati branch. Mrs. Young put up the first Iceberg as a hobby to stave off boredom, when her two sons, Alan in college and his younger brother in elementary, were just starting to build their own lives and *barkadas*. However, Alan, who would come home from school to help out in operations, saw the potential.

His mom wasn't exactly thrilled with the idea at first, because she realized that expansion would mean work for a gig that started out as just a hobby. But the thought of owning his own sports car made Alan more than determined.

Marine adventure replaced motoring over the years, and nowadays, Iceberg's President and Operations Manager would rather jet ski and go deep sea fishing in Palawan.

Corporate law has been left by the wayside, and probably for the better. It seems an inappropriate path for the ice cream entrepreneur who likes to tinker with ideas in his brain 24/7, and who shows a genuine affection for people. Such enthusiasm oozes naturally out of Alan, and he appears more like a big brother who'd like to spend some fun time with you than a businessman obssessed with the bean counter. As the SIM photographer demurs at yet another attempt to down his nth scoop of a mini-skyscraper of *ube*, mango, and chocolate concoctions, the kid in Alan comes out as he cajoles, "No, *pare, ubusin mo ito. Ang dami niyan. Mainit sa labas! Masarap iyan.*" (Finish this. There's a lot. It's hot outside. It's good.) The photographer gulps for a moment, then takes a scoop again.

Something right

"I prefer a direct connection with the client," he admits. Besides, this home chef who can whip up a Japanese teppanyaki says that his heart would always remain with food. "Other people look at business as just profit. I'm just happy when people are here and there are regular faces. If your store is full, you're doing something right."

And if there are problems, he doesn't exactly delegate them to others. If there's a shortage of manpower, for example, in one branch, Alan would dive right in to take the orders and serve the ice cream.

He also makes it a point to build rapport with his staff, all 200 of them. Their increasing size has made it difficult for him to indulge a habit of becoming *ninong* to their kids. Still, "You have to know each one and to know their problems."

Taking that personal approach also comes in handy when it comes to dealing with customers who are not quite used to the changes he brings in. Not a few expressed their irritation when Iceberg started serving their favorite *halo-halo* in a bowl instead of the usual tall glass.

"Just think of it," Alan makes his case. "It's hard to eat *halo-halo* in a tall glass, it spills out. Why do they hide the ingredients at the bottom, and not show them off on top? We put it in a wide-mouthed bowl. You can see the macapuno balls, the *ube*, banana, and *langka*. Plus one scoop of ice cream on top."

Experimentation is something he never tires of. That's why he keeps the Notebook—a grey-covered slim folio—beside him at all times. In the middle of watching a DVD, driving, in conversation, an idea would pop out of nowhere, and he'd have to jot it down.

Another source for his fertile imagination are the ice cream shops in Europe and the US, where he travels occasionally.

Every flavor

"I look around and try to adopt it here. We don't have apricots here, but we have fresh strawberries in abundance. Why not use real strawberries instead of syrup? We bring down a lot of strawberries from Baguio.Or why not use mango for the split instead of the usual bananas? We tried every flavor of ice cream to come up with the mango split. Think of a name that's catchy, and you have the Mango Tango split."

There's only one place on earth where he doesn't bring the Notebook: Boracay, where he claims he can be most "carefree. You can wear the same shirt for three days straight, and it would be OK." He has already visited Bora several times this summer, and is due back in June, when there are fewer tourists. "But that's also when the Germans go kite boarding. I really like watching them. The wind drags you while you're riding the surfboard. But you use the parachute-like kite instead of the windsail."

When the time is right, he intends to set up a branch on Boracay. "It's a dream. Hopefully it will open by December or January." Alan says it casually, but one can detect the undercurrent of enthusiasm and quiet determination. He wears the look that probably convinced that secretary 15 years ago to give the unassuming college kid a chance. But it's Bora now, and not the BMW, that occupies the entrepreneur's mind. And it may only be a matter of time before another Iceberg emerges to bring its brand of flavored chill to the Philippines' most sizzling summer spot. Q

This Week

Art

Dyna Quizon-Ondoy holds her first solo exhibit entitled, **Growing Season**, at the Food and Art Galerie, 12/F GT Tower, HV Dela Costa St. cor. Ayala Ave., Makati City. A pioneer member of Sining Kulay, the artist will unveil her most recent works done in oil and acrylic, symbolizing Ondoy's journey as an artist. "Growing Season" will run until May 31.

Coffee and Biscotti at Edsa Shangri-La's Lobby Lounge

Estefania Aldaba-Lim: A Portrait of a Mother is a nostalgic showcase of photos, letters and light-hearted anecdotes from supermom Fanny Aldaba-Lim's children and grandchildren. The exhibit also features arts and crafts areas where children can make gifts and greeting cards, or write letters to their mothers. The exhibit will run until May 31 at the Karapatan Hall, Museo Pambata, Roxas Boulevard corner South Drive, Manila. Please call Chie Sales at 523-1797 to 98 or 0917-5206459, fax 522-1246, or e-mail pr-prog@museopambata.org.

Tracings, a group show of 10 emerging artists from the University of the Philippines-Diliman College of Fine Arts, will run until June 12 at the Cultural Center of the Philipines Pasilyo Vicente Manansala and Pasilyo Guillermo Tolentino. The exhibit tackles issues on existence, identity or history through self-parody, self-criticism, self-validation, self-patronage, self-assessment, self-mythologization, or self-question. The works address the formalistic and intrinsic qualities of art. The exhibit is open for public viewing from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Mondays and holidays. Admission is free. For particulars, call 832-3702.

Nina performs at the Music Museum this month

Art Jam Season 2, an ETV show of ABS-CBN Foundation's E-Media program, culminates with an art exhibit on May 29 at the City Walk 2 in Eastwood City at 1:30 p.m. where all crafts produces in the show will be displayed. Highlight of the event is the Kids At Work awarding of best works by Arts Jam hosts Epy Quizon and Tado Jimenez. Kiddie treats such as pocket workshops, activity booths and games are also featured. All children are welcome to join the fun for free. For details, contact Ms. Tonet Yadao or Grace Panganiban of E-Media at 411-0853 or 922-4295.

Music

Lahing Angono, featuring talented groups from Angono, Rizal, led by the Angono Wind Ensemble under the music direction of Mr. Jopat Gragera, take center stage on May 22, starting 6 p.m. in Concert at the Park, Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium, Manila. Concert at the Part, a weekly public-service project of the National Parks Development Committee, is aired regularly courtesy of the National Broadcasting Network Channel 4 every sunday at 5 p.m. Admission is free.

The Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP) Music Center, in cooperation with the Manila Chamber Orchestra Foundation and Equitable PCI Bank, presents the formal launching of the Adventist Philharmonic Orchestra Development Plan (APO-ADP) and the Rizalina Exconde Buenaventura Violin-Viola Scholarship through a **concert by the AUP String Orchestra** on May 29, 4 p.m., at the Francisco Santiago Hall, Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, corner Dela Costa and Makati Avenue. The 40-member AUP Strign Orchestra is headed by conductor Jonathan Arevalo Coo with honorary music director, Maestra Rizalina Exconde Buenaventura. For more information, please contact 0921-2172617.

As part of the celebration of National Heritage Month, **C Majors** features the compositions of national artists for music Levi Celerio and Ernani Cuenco, and multi-awarded composers George Canseco, Willy Cruz, Jose Mari Chan and Ryan Cayabyab, to be sung by Asia's Queen of songs Pilita Corrales, pop diva Kuh Ledesma, premier balladeer Basil Valdez, Janet Basco, songstress Dulce, soprano Rachelle Gerodias and Prince of Pop Erik Santos, together with the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra and the San Miguel Master Chorale. The tribute concert, directed and written by Floy Quintos with Cayabyab as musical director and conductor, will be on May 25, 8 p.m., at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP). Tickets are available at major National Bookstore branches, Robinson's Department Stores (Malate, Galleria, Festival Mall, Pampanga & Cavite), Tower Records (Makati & Alabang), Music Museum (Virra Mall, Greenhills), Ayala Center Inc., Greenbelt I Ticket Booth Cinema Lobby, Glorietta I Ticket Booth Cinema Lobby, and TicketWorld at www.ticketworld.com.ph. Ticket prices are at P1,500; P1,000; P500; P300; and P100. Call 891-9999 for inquiries and reservations.

On May 27 and 28 at the Music Museum, Soul Siren Nina is ready to party in her forthcoming concert **Nina Just Wanna Have Fun**. Guests include brother King, classical tenor Lemuel Dela Cruz and acoustic artist Nyoy Volante. For ticket inquiries and reservations, call the Music Museum at 721-6726 and TicketWorld at 891-5610. For further details, call 7003 Dynamux Inc. at 533-8153/718-0945, and GR Creative Exchange at 722-7223/722-8847.

Food

Manila Pavilion Hotel presents a festival of prime-grade beef cooked and served in different styles with **Best of Beef and Burgundy**, available from May 16-28 at The Rotisserie during lunch from 12:00 noon to 3 p.m., and dinner from 6:30-10:30 p.m. For reservations and inquiries, call the Manila Pavilion Hotel at 526-1212 ext. 2505.

Edsa Shangri-La's Lobby Lounge presents the perfect combination of **premium coffee and authentic crunchy biscotti** with generous portions of pistachio nuts, available daily from 7 a.m. to 12 midnight until May 31. For inquiries, please call Restaurant Reservations at 633-8888 ext. 2738 and 2739.

Mandarin Oriental, Manila, sets the stage for a glimpse and taste of Philippine culinary history in a unique Filipino food festival aptly billed, ***Piging: A Heritage of Cuisine***, at the Captain's Bar from May 23-27, The event, which focuses on the ilustrado banquets that were held in the bahay na bato in the 18th century, is held in conjunction with the Filipino Heritage Month. For inquiries and reservations, call Mandarin Oriental at 750-8888 ext. 2417 and 2418.

Atbp

The Communication Foundation for Asia (CFA) invites kids and adults to participate in **Radio Voice Acting and Dubbing Workshop** on May 24 and 27, and Scriptwriting for TV and Film Workshop on May 25-2 8at the CFA Studios, 4427 Interior Old Sta. Mesa, Manila. For reservations on either workshops, contact Grace through landline at 713-2732, 714-7233, and 713-2981 loc. 407, text 0927-9659435 and 0916-2272480, or e-mail cfadevcom@yahoo.com.

The Center for Asian Culinary Studies holds a **series of cooking workshops**, including a one-day course on Easy Spanish Dishes on May 25, 1-3 p.m. to be conducted by Gourmet Palate's Betina Legarda; Rice Class featuring assorted rice recipes on May 26, 10 a.m.-3 pm.m with Chef Ana Baluyot; and Thai Favorites with Bangkok Chariya Thaikupt on June 2, 1-4 p.m. For inquiries, call 725-5089/726-9326. Please book at least two days in advance. The Center for Asian Culinary Studies is located at 455 P. Guevarra St., San Juan.

Crab Relleno at the Mandarin Oriental's Captain's Bar

The Philippine Star Classifinder Job Fair 2005 happens on May 27-28 at the Activity Center of Market! Market!, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig. Have your resumés ready. Call Philtrade Exhibits at 825-3482 or 825-0804 for details.

A **seminar-workshop on classical, haiku and free verse writing** will be held on May 28 at the Loyola House of Studies at Ateneo, Quezon City. Call telephone number 285-24-49 or (0916) 3622406.

MegaStar Events will be holding a recital, ***Hataw Na! The Recital***, as the culminating activity for the Moro Lorenzo Sports Center Workshop 2005 on May 28, 7 p.m., at the Henry Lee Irwin SJ Theater, Ateneo De Manila University, Quezon City. The recital will showcase various forms of performing arts, including Jazz, Hip-Hop, Ballroom, Theater Arts, Singing, Modeling and Personality Development, and Ballet. Tickets are priced at P200 each (free seating).

A **hands-on course on digital photography** for office workers, housewives and students will be held on four consecutive Saturdays, from May 28 to June 18, at the Comfoods Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Chino Roces Ave., Makati City. Organized by the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation, the workshop will cover digital camera functions, correct exposure, flash in low light and bright light, digital file formats, pixel damage, and preparing images for print, presentation and Web transmission. Call 813-7420 or 843-5341.

As part of the continuing photography education program, the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation will hold a **photography seminar for kids** ages 7 to 12 on May 24-26 at the Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila. Day 1 will cover basic camera handling, parts of the camera, and how to use aperture and shutter speed for better pictures; Day 2 will have the kids seeing photographically and learning what to look for in taking photos; and on Day 3 comes the presentation and evaluation of their shots. Contact FPPF at 7/F Comfoods Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, at 843-5341 or 813-7320. Look for Lerma Aquino or Beverly Estrosas.

Pianists from all over the world born between 1973 and 1985 are invited to take part in the **International Beethoven Competition**, an international piano competition in honor of Ludwig van Beethoven to be held in Bonn, Germany, the city of Beethoven's birth, for the first time on December 1-15. Applicants are required to submit their registration form postmarked not later than May 31, together with the Eur 50 registration fee. Please include in your application a recording of themselves playing the following works in DVD or VHS form: (a) a fugue by Johann Sebastian Bach or Georg Frideric Handel; (b) One of Beethoven's last three sonatas: op. 109, op. 110 or op. 111; and (c)Rondo a Capriccio "Rage over a Lost Penny" in G major, op. 129, or Polonaise in C major, op. 89 by Beethoven. Interested parties may reach the organizing committee at www.beethoven-competition-bonn.de. For more information and a copy of the application form, please contact the CCP Music Division at 832-1125 loc. 1604/1605.

The AUP String Orchestra performs at the Francisco Santiago Hall

Songs of Love & Struggle: From Andres Bonifacio to Jose Maria Sison, a newly released classical album, showcases music of two talented Filipinos in Europe, soprano Rica Nepomuceno and pianist Aries Caces. For details, please contact Koda Productions at 2/F Erythrina Bldg., No. 1 Maaralin St. cor Matatag St., Bgy. Central, Diliman, Quezon City; telefax 426-2201; or e-mail kodaophils@gmail.com.

Philtrade Exhibits brings to the public the **Jobs Fair Caravan 2005 @ Robinsons Mall**, an exclusive gathering of outsourcing, manufacturing and service industries envisioned to have the widest coverage and the highest job openings in the job market. The event would tour different Robinsons Malls in Luzon on the following dates: Robinsons Place Manila (May 23-29), Robinsons Starmills Pampanga (June 11-17), Robinsons Metro East (July 2-8), Robinsons Place Imus (Sept. 3-5), and Robinsons Pioneer (Oct. 107). Interested applicants must bring resumés. For inquiries, call 825-3482 and 825-0804.

The Center for Professional Development and Consultancy (CPDCS) of the UST Graduate School offers a **one-day seminar on Vicarious Traumatization (VT)**on May 24, 8 a.m-5 p.m., at the Seminar Workshop Rooms 1 and 2 of the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex, University of Santo Tomas. The seminar aims to offer help in madia practitioners and journalists be aware of and understand the nature of VT, recognize its common symptoms and effects, learn some coping strategies and develop appropriate collegial and institutional support.Seminar fee is priced at P3,500, inclusive of snacks, lunch, seminar kit, photo and certificate. For inquiries, call 741-7416 or 731-3101 loc. 4051.

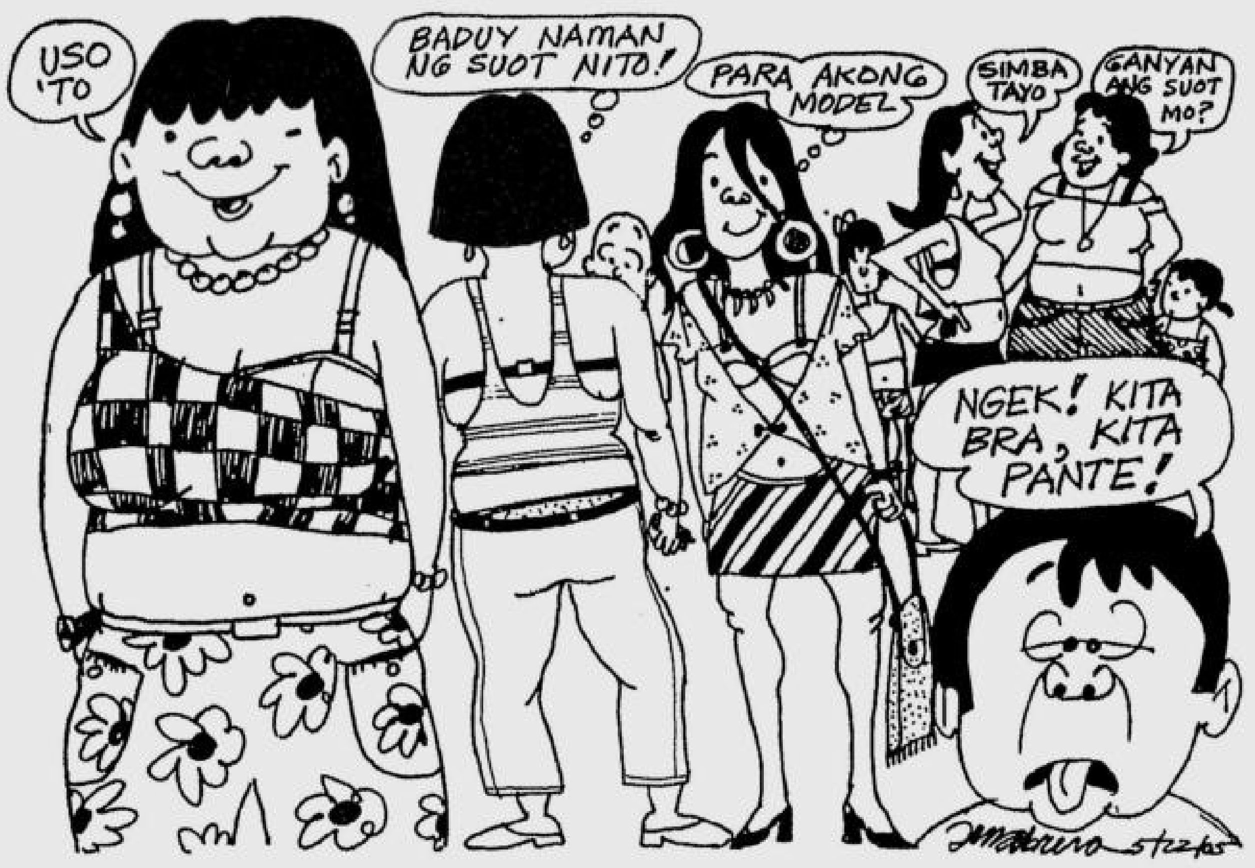
X-manila

Real estate practitioners from the Visayan and Mindanao regional areas will converge at the Casino Español in Cebu City on May 26-28 for the **Visayas-Mindanao Conference & Exhibits** of the National Real Estate Association (NREA). The conference, which focuses on the theme, "Addressing the Realities of the New Filipino Community For A More Sustainable Growth in the 21st Century," will provide delegates the latest information and technology update in property development to further enhance their trade capabilities. Some 300 participants are expected to attend. For particulars, please contact the NREA Secretariat at 912-3492 and 913-4463.

Pinoy Nga!

Jess Abrera

Kita Bituka



For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

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Carving

...from page 4

ber of Arte Etnika and is involved with the National Society of Philippine Sculptors and the Concerned Artists of the Philippines.

Since 1981, Contreras has had 59 group exhibitions and 16 one-man shows that have brought him to Brazil, the United States, Japan, Singapore and Australia. He won the grand prize for sculpture in the 1992 Arts Association of the Philippines competition and an award in the 1987 First Bonifacio Public Art Competition.

Making the most of limited resources—in this case, time—is a principle that the sculptor lives by. Contreras uses not only indigenous materials, but scrap wood and metal that he transforms into art while preserving their natural form, color and texture. In his paper titled "Sustainable development in art at Quezon," Contreras writes: "Discarded wood, hand picked from the area and trashed materials are transformed into work of art; they assume not only images of art, but become artistic expressions of environmental preservation."

Not to mention, an economic lifeline. Sculpting could become an alternative livelihood to the fisherfolk, he said. Each piece can be sold anywhere from P200 to P5,000, a lucrative venture compared to the P65 a sack that the Quezon folk get from making charcoal, Contreras added. One of the 50 participants who joined the 10-day course in fact sold his creation for P7,000 during the group's May 13 graduation. He would use the money to buy a fishnet, the budding sculptor said. The output from the workshop will be put on exhibit and auctioned in Manila in August, said Flores, with the proceeds used as seed fund for other future livelihood projects—truly a way of carving out new life where there was once only devastation. Q

Rey Contreras can be contacted through his e-mail ReyPaz@ContrerasSculptures.com and through his showroom Contreras Sculptures at the 4/F Bldg A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong, with tel. no. (632)634-1283.

This Chef

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(period films and glitzy Hollywood productions are her type); she also attends Bible study regularly. Long with Singles for Christ, the chef "retired" last December as she, at 41, was deemed "over-aged." "I'm looking for other things to do," says Pacheco who is in between groups but used to participate in Singles' many missions and advocacies, among them, the Habitat for Humanity-like program, Bahay Kalinga.

Food, whether cooking or consuming it, is her true passion. For obvious reasons, Pacheco often finds herself on the inviting end of gatherings. "I noticed that every time I hold a meeting in my house, *kompleto ang* attendance," she laughs. "But if there's an occasion when I can cook, I'll do it."

The same goes for eating. Despite her Swiss school background, Pacheco says she can live on fried *bangus* and rice everyday, capping the humble meal by drinking the vinegar she used as a sauce right down to its very last drop. Her next culinary venture? To eat at *Aling* Sosing on Palanan, Makati, a cab driver's pit stop that has caught the fancy of the Central Business District's lunchtime crowd with its fast and cheap yet mouth-watering dishes. Swears Pacheco, "I can eat anything." Q

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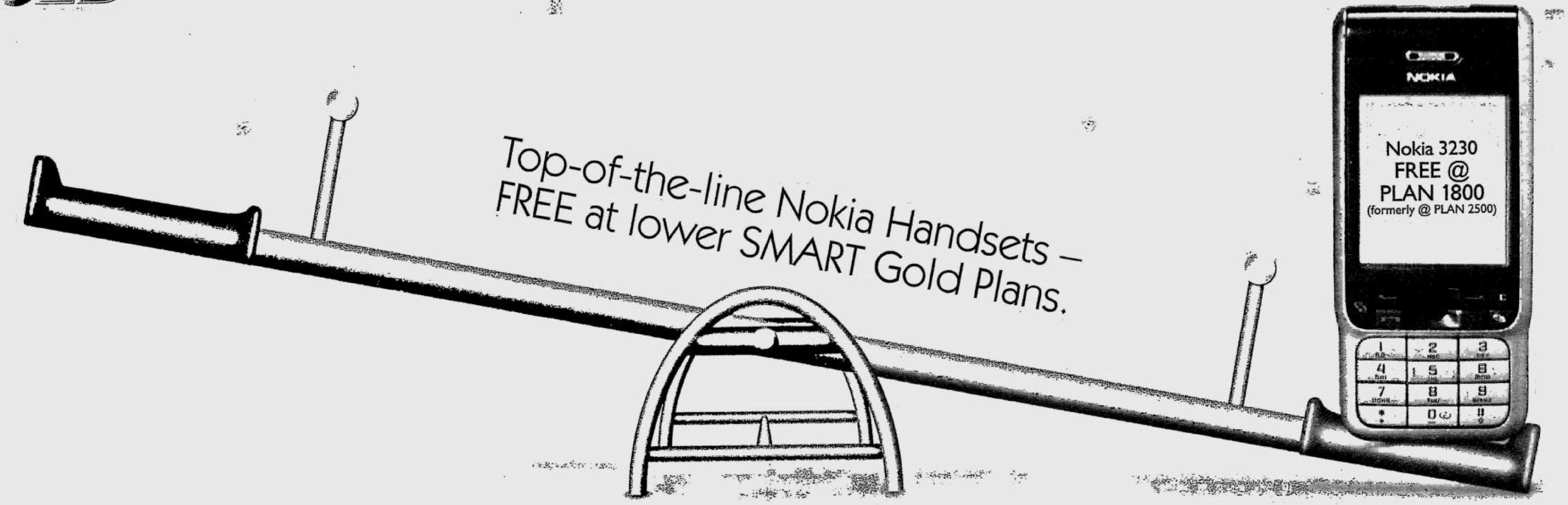

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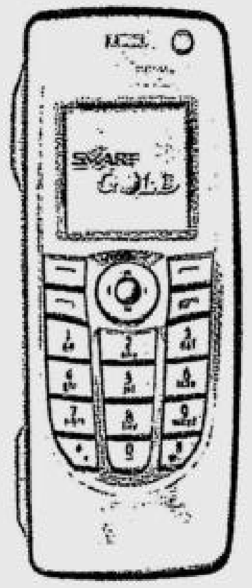

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